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OPEN EVENINGS

### FRENCH UNITED IN WAR PROSECUTION

(By the Associated Press)

Paris, Dec. 18.—In the sixteen months since France went to war it is declared that there has been only one case of an attempt made by violence to interfere with the concentration of the army and the prosecution of the war.

This fact is being pointed out in justification of the action which Minister of the Interior Malvy took in resisting suggestions that all revolutionary leaders, anarchists, and persons suspected of disloyalty to the republic be arrested on the eve of the issuing of the general mobilization order. The names of five thousand suspects were previous to the war written in what was known as "Note Book B." It had been the government's plan, in case of mobilization, to have all these people confined, at least while the mobilization was going on, but Minister Malvy, on whom the responsibility devolved, found himself between two fires. The Socialist leaders implored him not to take action, declaring it would only inflame turbulent elements. On the other hand, the cabinet endeavored to impress upon him the gravity of the responsibility he would assume in leaving at liberty persons who had boasted that in case of war they would prevent the mobilization of the army by violence.

Jean Jaures, the leader of the Socialist party, who was to fall under an assassin's hand the very night the mobilization order was issued, and Gustav Herve, who had been one of the most violent anti-militant leaders, assured M. Malvy that the Socialists and the members of the Labor Federation would show themselves as loyal as any other category of French citizens, and that it would be a crime to issue orders for the arrest of the men whose names were inscribed in "Note Book B."

Upon their advice Minister Malvy decided to take the chance, and it is now pointed out that the results have been proof enough that fears were groundless. In the one case in which an attempt was made to interfere with the concentration of the troops, details of which are lacking, it is pointed out that members of the Socialist party themselves detected the attempt and punished it so brutally that it was not repeated.



value, but because transportation is simplified. Land in the heart of South America, which may be much more fertile, is worthless because transportation is impossible.

**Building Good Roads.** Chatham is building good roads. Naturally the land in this county is ideal. But it was away from markets. It lacked transportation. Good roads are moving Chatham farms up to the markets. If we could cut out the cost and trouble of transportation a farm in one place would be worth just the same as a farm in another place if fertility and climate were equal. But today location in the main factor. A good road cuts out much of the transportation problem. Chatham has come to see this. Next year will see a rapid spread of good roads, for the coming of winter will soon interrupt work for the balance of this season. Spring will see the county active in the construction work, and another year will find Chatham farmers coming to the towns with loads much bigger than any they have been hauling. If it costs five dollars this year to haul the product of an acre to market, and the product of that acre can be hauled to market next year for three dollars that acre is worth \$30 more money, for the road makes it pay interest on \$30 more money. If the road increases the acre return by 60 cents the acre is worth \$10 more, for 60 cents is the interest on \$10. There is not an acre in Chatham county that can not increase its net profit 60 cents a year by the help of a good road as compared with a bad road, which is equivalent to saying that good roads will easily increase the actual worth of Chatham land by at least four or five million dollars. That may not be available in the first or second or any immediate year, but the added value is there nevertheless.

**More People Sure To Come.** Increased population will be able to utilize land that has facilities for reaching market. The big hogs that are to be raised in the townships will be hauled to market with some profit, hence they will be raised in increasing numbers. More farms will be opened on the good roads. Good roads will fast make Chatham county available for use, for it will make the lands accessible.

An interesting prospect in Chatham county is the Bonlee and Western railroad. This runs out from Bonlee to the eastern edge of Randolph county. It is owned by J. H. and Isaac Dunlap, who built it to open the big scope of territory between the Southern and Deep River. J. H. Dunlap, who comes into Siler City often, speaking of the county out in his neighborhood, grew enthusiastic over its prospects, and the picture that he draws is fascinating. Nearly anything that can be desired is out in the river settlement except sufficient people, and these Mr. Dunlap is trying to secure. On Deep River is the vast power opportunity. On the farm land is all the other opportunity. The railroad opens the country. The character of the land is excellent. But people to develop and operate are shy. It can't be that way very many years, for the increasing population of the country will find the Bonlee territory one of these days, and then the movement will set in.

Around Bonlee is historic ground. Just above is the old Ore Hill region, where in the days gone by iron ore was mined and made into pig iron, forming a thrifty industry. Copper was also developed in the vicinity. The old ruins are still visible, showing indications of what was once a lively industrial community. Richer ores up in the lake country put the Ore Hill section out of business, and leaves the flavor of romance about the valley. Further up is the old Mt. Vernon Spring, which in its day was a popular resort. A fairly big hotel there yet could accommodate a considerable patronage if people were better acquainted with it. But it has not been kept in the public eye, and it is to considerable extent a memory. Yet it is in a highly desirable neighborhood, and from the appearance of things around here it would look like a good place for a vacation through the summer or fall until the regular weather of winter drives folks away from the country places.

**Learns Rabbit-Catching Secret.** But to get back to rabbits, of which

Siler City seems to be the most prominent producer in the world. Naturally you wonder when you come to a place that holds a record for anything how it happens that the boys who come in from the country come carrying one or two or may be several rabbits, and they make a steady stream to the stores of the men who buy and ship rabbits. Rabbits are abundant in Chatham county, and also they are abundant all over the State. Chatham seems to have learned the secret of catching them. I sought information from Junius Wrenn, who is well posted on Chatham county affairs, and he drove away some of the preconceived notions about traps. "A rabbit trap wants to be a box about two feet long and a few inches in diameter so a rabbit can find refuge in it if he wants to hide. To catch rabbits you put your box near the paths the rabbits make as they run back and forth, and in course of time the rabbit notices it, and remembers that it is available in case he ever needs shelter or a safe retreat."

"Some day when he has nothing else to do he comes along and he concludes to look into the availability of the box as a temporary home or a shelter and he drops out of the path and investigates. If you have your sticks properly set you may catch him then. If not, you should fix them right, and may be in a day or so he figures that he has some business in the box and he goes in and knocks down the sticks and you have him."

"What do the boys around here use for bait?" asked.

"Bait, nothing. The rabbit is not out on a dinner expedition when you catch him. He is just feeling around, and the notion takes him that he has found a place to hide, and he pops in. Bait with a place for him to dodge in out of danger, and put it just off the path. Never put it in the path, for he will run around it and continue about his business. Put the box at one side where it looks secure, and with just the open end visible, and then take your chance. Not too big a box. That gives the rabbit a chance to jump out when you open it. Just a small box big enough for him to get in comfortably. When you take him out grab him by the hind legs and hold tight or he will get away for he is strong and mighty much afraid."

Probably this is not a Chatham county secret. But the truth is that the boys up here know how to catch rabbits, and if the boys over the State could pick up the trick as well, it would mean a lot of Christmas money to the whole of North Carolina, for rabbits are mighty good eating, and they seem to bring the price almost any old place that they are sent.

**What Teeth Can Do.** New York Telegram.

Lack of care of the mouth is prejudicial to the health of children as well as adults. A decaying tooth is always a menace, and especially when the decaying process reaches below the gums, producing ulcerations, pyorrhea, etc., which, being difficult of access for treatment, are always to be regarded as dangerous.

Aside from the pain and suffering which these diseases of the teeth produce, the possibility of direct infection must not be overlooked.

So-called blood poisoning and death have been frequent results from diseased teeth. Some forms of inflammatory rheumatism are believed to be caused by the infection of pyorrhea, and in general the health is injured in proportion as the teeth are affected.

Inflammation of the lining membranes and muscular fibres of the heart, chronic enlargements of the joints, acute and chronic inflammation of the kidneys, tonsillitis, goitre and even diabetes have all been traced directly to diseased teeth.

**All Fixed.** Boston Transcript.

Krotchett—Say, old man, I want to apologize for the temper I displayed last night, your wife and sister must have thought me crazy.

Goodson—No, they didn't. I fixed that all right.

K.—That was very good of you. Thanks!

G.—I told them you were drunk.

### CHATHAM COUNTY FORGING TO FRONT

Raising Fine Hogs, Building Good Roads, and Leading in Rabbit Industry HAS RADIANT FUTURE

Improved Thoroughfares Increase Actual Worth of Lands Millions of Dollars and Increased Population Will Come With Improved Facilities for Getting to Market

By BION H. BUTLER

Siler City, Dec. 18.—It isn't the big things that shape the course of life. It is the little things that come at the proper moment. One of the most dramatic and far-reaching incidents that ever happened in this county occurred in New York on the occasion of a dinner given to James G. Blaine during his 1884 campaign by a party of clergymen, at which Parson Burchard made his famous remark about "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion." The entire country was in one of the most bitter political cam-

paigns ever waged in American history, and the result was a victory for Cleveland so narrow that a trifle might have turned things the other way. The three words of Dr. Burchard alienated enough Catholic votes that Blaine lost New York by 1,100 votes and lost the presidency.

In losing he lost not for himself, but for the whole Republican party, and the advent of Cleveland brought into action a new line of advancement, and turned the course of American government and industry in new directions. The fatal phrase did more than all the rest of the army that worked against Blaine and it was an army, and it worked. But the preacher's untimely remark drove the nail in the coffin.

So I say little things are often the big things. Big things are climaxes shaped up by little things. Little things make life.

**By Way of Illustration.**

We got to talking about hunting at dinner today and a hunter said he was proud of the possibilities of Chatham county. It started over the fried rabbit on the table, and you know when you start a hunting story you have to call the posse comitatus to get the thing stopped. Well, this man had been down the Ore Hill road looking for anything that he could shoot at, and he happened to chase a squirrel into a hole in a tree in the creek bottom. He looked at the hole and figured that it might harbor more than one squirrel, so he went out to a farm house and borrowed an axe, and with the axe came the boy and the farm dog, as is customary.

They cut down the tree and sure enough it had more than one squirrel, three if I have not got the figures wrong, and as they were looking around for the fourth or fifth the dogs found that an opossum was in the high forks, and then the hunter happened to observe that he was flying fiercely about another broken place, and the result was that when they counted up at the close of the game they had some squirrels, an opossum, and a bucket full of honey, all in one tree. And the hunter remarked that he presumed he might have found a rabbit or two in the hollow but if they had not forgotten in their excitement to take a look. You know when you are loaded you do not worry much to hunt for further riches to carry with you.

This is Chatham county.

I strolled out past the bent wood factory. Talk about using everything about a hog but its squeal, these Siler City fellows have been improving on that. The wood factory runs by steam, and just to be neighborly it has a surplus of power, so it drives a dynamo that provides a certain amount of power for the electric light and power concern of the community. Yet this has nothing to do with the squeal of the pig, for lots of schemes are used everywhere to take advantage of surplus power. At the wood factory, like at other places where steam engines are employed, is a steam wastage that is not often turned to account. Not so at Siler City. For going out from the shop to the finishing house I noticed a number of racks below the elevated walk that connects the two buildings, and on the racks hung nine or ten whaling big hogs in the transition stage between corn-eaters and sausage.

**Using Waste Steam.**

Investigation disclosed the fact that the bent wood factory is not a pork-packing house, but that it has some waste steam to sell, and that as waste steam is not a commodity that can be done up in packages and freighted

around over the country the man who wants to use it must come to the place where it is made. A colored man and the factory man discussed the question of steam and the colored man had a big tank put up by the side of the factory, and the factory men run a steam pipe out to the tank, and there day after day at this season of the year hogs are scalded and dressed at the rate of a dozen or so daily. The colored artist contracts with the people around town and in the neighborhood to bring their porkers over to the factory, put them through the necessary stages and return the products, and he sure does a land office business.

That thing naturally caught my eye, for it is one of the neatest contrivances to scald hogs outside of the big packing house, and here in Siler City it is kept in motion day after day. The hog is dropped into the tank, the steam keeps it steadily at the right temperature, two or three strong-armed darkeys stand by to rescue the victim from the water, and he is quickly scraped, hung up on the convenient racks, and ready to go back where he is to serve during the remainder of his existence.

But while this is a novelty the more impressive sight was the size and quality of the hogs that were brought over to the bent wood factory to be converted into pork. Of eight or ten that had reached the racks where they hung with their heels in the air, and their noses pointing toward the grass, they looked to weigh anywhere from 350 to 450 pounds each, and possibly more. It was a pretty good exhibit of what Chatham county is doing in the way of taking care of the table. Mind you, I don't say what the county can do, but what it is doing. The day has gone by when anybody doubts what almost any county in North Carolina can do. The point is to find a county that is doing what it can do. Probably Chatham is nowhere near that point yet, for I size up the possibility as being far ahead of the performance as yet. But the actual production is big hogs, and a lot of them.

**Commissioner Graham's Good Work.**

I don't know whether we realize the importance of such documents as Maj. W. A. Graham brings out once in a while or not, but in his recent report on the agricultural productions of North Carolina this aggressive John-the-Baptist of the farm has done more than you think. If the major will sit still a minute and not blinch I will tell him that if he did nothing else for North Carolina but gather up and publish the remarkable progress the State is making in farm results, he would be worth to the State as much as he is paid in salary, and a lot more. This thing of knowing what you are doing, and of knowing when you are pushing ahead that you are pushing ahead, and that from the progress you make you can make a lot more progress, is one of the most valuable helps that can come to a hustler, which North Carolina is today. Every time Maj. Graham comes to the front of the stage with a fresh paper that tells how far the State has passed its last year's mark with a new record he fills the people with encouragement, and that encouragement is simply giving them the knowledge that they can do these things if they want to.

In noting around here for a couple of days I did not see a razor back hog in the steaming tank, on the rack or in the hog lot. Possibly Chatham county has not been addicted to the razor back hog, but I doubt that, for it does not seem likely the high-brows in the pork line would be so abundant over here,

and the low trash so abundant over in the adjoining counties.

However let it do as it may, the hogs that seem to be getting ready for Christmas up this way now appear to be of the aristocrats of the swine family. I take it from this that all over the state of North Carolina the proportion of 300-pound hogs will be bigger this year than ever before, and that the tendency will continue to run in that direction. Nobody needs to imagine the state is not going forward. In the last fifteen years North Carolina has waked up, and in that period of time has added over half a million people to the number in the State, an addition that means more than we imagine when it comes to doing things. Then, as a Siler City man said when we were looking at the hogs there talking hold now. A few years ago they did not know how to work, nor that they could work. Now everybody works.

**Razor Back Fading Away.**

The razor back day has gone. In some parts of the state are yet plenty of razor backs, but they are crowding farther and farther down toward the sea, and before long they will have vanished. The man who has hung up in the fall a 350 pound hog, or who has seen his neighbor hang up a few of that kind, is not willing to exhibit many more such fish hogs himself. He wants the big round kind that will cut out some hams and sausage and lard and bacon.

Another sign in Chatham is the road fever. It has been slow in the inception, but the trouble has started, and around Siler and over toward Pittsboro, and down by Moncure, and in all quarters the infection has taken hold. A delegation was in from the townships the other day to debate the location of the new roads, some of which are already ordered, and the life of the good commissioners of the township will be as busy as walking ever heavy chains for a year or two, but out of the tribulation will come good roads, for the bonds are ordered, surveys have been made and foreps have already made considerable headway.

This network of good roads, will open one of the most substantial groups of good roads in the South. Joining with Lee, Harnett, and other adjoining counties that have clay soils and hilly contour Chatham is working out a system of more expensive roads than those of the sandy country farther south. It is taking more money, but some of the roads in this belt that have been finished are models in their way. This good roads restlessness that is breaking out in Chatham county is worth to the county about four or five million dollars, for it puts an immediate increase in values all over the whole territory. Chatham has about 450,000 acres of land. Good roads in the county will make that land worth ten dollars an acre more to the county, not for selling purposes, for that is a secondary matter, but for utility purposes.

Figure it out. The value of land is not in its selling price, but in its productive ability. Selling prices are based on productive ability, though we may not realize it. Chatham county land is worth \$200 an acre, for it can easily produce interest on that sum of money if rightly handled. It can't be rightly handled if it cannot be reached by wagons or other vehicles. Transportation is one of the first essentials of doing anything that is productive. The farm that is near New York is worth big money, not because of any greater

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