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Saturday, Dec. 21, 1918.

Government Ownership

The Citizen has not always found itself in perfect accord with Claude Kitchin, chairman of the committee on ways and means, but it believes that he voices the sentiment of a great majority of the American people when he declares that government ownership of railroads and other public utilities would not be conducive to the best interests of this nation. As recently remarked in these columns, this country's experience so far with the government's operation of railroad, telegraph and telephone lines has certainly had no tendency to popularize such operation, and has constituted no argument in favor of permanent control. Something like twelve years ago, when Mr. Bryan first promulgated his doctrine of government ownership of railways, The Citizen declared that such a program carried to execution would constitute the most powerful and pernicious political machine that could be conceived, and would virtually perpetuate the reign of the political party which adopted it. Nothing that has transpired since that time has caused this paper to change its views on this subject, and it is as little in favor of government ownership of railways and other public utilities as it was then.

Indeed the country's experience with government control of railways today has done more to forecast the ultimate return of the roads to their rightful owners than tons of propaganda along that line could have accomplished. This much Congressman Kitchin intimates when he says: "I am convinced that it (government ownership) is not a wise thing, and the results of the government operation or control so far have not tended to increase my faith in its wisdom." Mr. Kitchin also intimates that government ownership would mean, first, unreasonable increase in freight and passenger rates; second, organization of the railway employes into a powerful political machine, and an annual deficit to be paid by the taxpayers generally. As to the increase in freight and passenger rates, the public has already had a fairly good taste of such procedure, and North Carolina's dream of rates that would not discriminate seems to have gone glimmering. Then, too, the average traveler can hardly fail to notice the brazen discourtesy of some railway employes on certain railroads of the country since Uncle Sam took charge. This is a matter of common knowledge, and has been a subject of general comment among traveling men.

No, there is no nation-wide demand for government ownership of railways and other public utilities; were the question left to popular vote the verdict to that effect would be most convincing.

An Exploded Myth

"How thoroughly has the myth of German efficiency been exploded," remarked one of Asheville's leading citizens not long ago to the writer, "yet for nearly three years the Huns had the whole world bluffed along this line."

And nothing is truer. Yet now, we feel convinced, the worldwide belief in German efficiency and thoroughness of detail was inspired largely by a carefully prepared German propaganda, a form of education at which the Germans undoubtedly excel. For instance, the world was awed by the repeated recital of the fact that every German soldier had a double row of suspender buttons on his trousers, and that every private and officer carried two cases of needles instead of one. Come to think of it, any old woman embarking on a long journey would do as much in the way of needles and thread, and would not be given credit for any undue foresight. Then you will remember how inspired writers told us that between every German toe on each German foot there was a little wad of cotton to prevent chafing on the march. How the world gawked and gaped! What marvelous brains to harbor such foresight! And, bless you, while the ordinary British Tommy carried two pairs of woolen socks, the Hun carried three—so how could he be defeated?

But when it came down to real fighting ,to human endurance, and to unwavering courage, what availed the Hun's double row of buttons, his needles and his thread, his extra socks and the wads of cotton between his toes? Doubtless he withdrew the latter to make better speed when he started to run. What brand of German efficiency was it that caused the Hun to throw up his hands and yell "kamerad!" in the face of inferior numbers? And was it "efficiency" that gave our American fighters the certain knowledge that the Hun is a coward at heart and fights only as a machine? Men of today remember as school boys the generally accepted belief that a "Dutchman won't fight," and while it slanders the sturdy sons of Holland to call a Hun a Dutchman, that belief applied to the Huns of Germany. It was easy, of course, to gain some sort of reputation for victorious marches against the unprepared soldiery and women of little Belgium and Northern France, but when it came down to the real thing—ah, there was a different story. The Hun stood revealed for what he really is.

Notes and Comments

You have three more days for your Christmas shopping. Don't put it off to the last minute.

* * *

And you could not do better than invest your surplus change in War Savings stamps.

* * *

A Chicago judge recently decided that if a man lends money to his wife it becomes hers, and need not be returned. It didn't take any judge to decided that; every married man knows it.

* * *

Secretary Glass is not at all mistaken in believing that there will be a big response to the next Liberty loan. Knowing that it will be the last, Americans everywhere will rush to make the most of the opportunity.

* * *

London went wild over the visit of Sir Douglas Haig and his staff to the British capital, but there is something unusually fine in the way of ovations awaiting General Allenby when he gets back from Palestine. For he is the man who put the first kink in the back of the Hun.

Today's Anniversaries

1757—The Prussians recovered Breslau from the Austrians after a long siege.

1848—The Asiatic cholera broke out with great violence among the United States troops at Port Lavace, Texas.

1868—Basil Manly, for many years president of the University of Alabama, died at Greenville, S. C. Born in Chatham County, N. C., January 28, 1798.

1878—Marriage of the duke of Cumberland and Princess Thyra of Dehmark, sister of Queen Alexandra.

1893—Morocco acceded to the demands of Spain for indemnity and guarantees for future peace.

1901—Count von Blumenthal, the last survivor of the German generals who fought in the Franco-Prussian war, died. Born July 10, 1810.

1914—The Russians massed their forces before Warsaw.

1915—German Reichstag voted a war credit of $2,500,000,000.

1916—President Wilson warned Europe the United States was brought to verge of war by acts of the belligerents.

TODAY'S EVENTS.

Pope Benedict XV. today celebrates the fortieth anniversary of his ordination.

Rt. Rev. John J. Nilan, Catholic bishop of Hartford, today completes forty years in the priesthood.

Charles P. Taft, Cincinnati newspaper publisher, and brother of former President Taft, is 75 years old today.

Many warships are expected to assemble at New York today in anticipation of the reception and naval review to be given in honor of the return of the American dreadnought fleet from Europe.

The Students' Army Training corps system, under which more than 133,000 students in 565 colleges of the United States were brought into the army this fall, will cease to exist today.

Today's Birthdays

Prof. Charles H. Haskins of Harvard, who has accompanied President Wilson to the peace conference, born at Meadville, Pa., 48 years ago today.

Dr. Morton Prince, noted neurologist and psychologist, and a leader in war relief movements in New England, born in Boston, 64 years ago, today.

Harry Irwin, attorney-general of Hawaii, born in Shelburne County, N. S., 71 years ago today.

Brig. Gen. David L. Brainard, U. S. A., a survivor of the Greely Arctic expedition, born in Herkimer County, N. Y., 62 years ago today.

William Church Osborn, noted New York lawyer, recently chosen president of the Texas and Pacific railroad born in Chicago, 56 years ago today.

In the Day's News

Rt. Rev. John J. Nilan, who today celebrates the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, has been bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Hartford since 1910. Bishop Nilan is a product of New England, born at Newburyport, Mass., in 1854, and educated in the schools of that city. Later he graduated from Nicolet college, Canada, and then went to St. Joseph's seminary, Troy, to complete his theological studies. Following his ordination in 1878, and until his elevation to the bishopric, Father Nilan was rector of churches in various cities and towns of Massachusetts, including Framingham, Amesbury and Boston.

Ships built of steel are estimated to be able to carry about twenty per cent more freight than those made of iron.

America's Honor List

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The following casualties are reported by the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces:

Killed in action	19
Died of wounds	25
Died of accident and other causes	8
Died of disease	37
Wounded (degree undetermined)	763
Wounded slightly	787
Missing in action	92
Total	1,731

North Carolina's representation in the foregoing figures is as follows:

Wounded (Degree Undetermined).

Lieutenant Hal Walker, Ashboro; Sergeants Dwight O. Coggin, Nashville; James W. Holland, Gastonia; Lindsay Piggott, Piggott Supply; Fred Smith, Rocky Mount; Privates Ules Fred Reavis, Winston-Salem; Richard E. Shaw, Lexington; William H. Bennett, Durham; Virgil R. Smith, Durham; Clarence Franklin Denton, Hickory; James A. Klass, Thomasville; Jesse J. Leonard, Shilloette; Bremon McInturff, Snow Hill; Charles S. McLeod, Ether; Wayne A. Weaver, Grassy Creek; William Nathaniel Brawley, Charlotte; Connie L. Comers, New Castle; Lee O. Holdsclaw, Stanley; Rufus A. Griffin, Kipena; Charlie A. Matthews, Snow Hill; Hoyle H. Shook, Matney; Nathaniel W. Tucker, Norlina; Archie C. Clark, Sanford; Joseph C. Fullerton, Charlotte; Samuel G. Hendrick, Durham; Somey Hoppes, Altapass; Ivan S. Mayes, Oxford; Roy Y. Shaw, New Hope Academy.

Wounded Slightly.

Corporals Kirby Kirkman, Greensboro; Walter Jewell Padrick, Wilmington; Cook Ben S. Vick, Nashville; Lewis A. Crews, Oxford; Olin Nesbit Norwood, Matthews; Privates Clarence F. Bowen, Whiteville; Jim Daniel, Greenville; Robery E. Lee, Bostic; Jim Pruitt, Concord; Moses Todd, Middlesex; Amos Worthman, Casar; James Wyatt, Wagoner; Enoch Eddins, Shelby; Walter J. Moore, Henderson; **THOMAS METCALF, 15 Broadway, Asheville**; Joseph J. Harrington, Cameron; Colt Odell Marshall, Statesville; **JULIAN PAYNE, 146 Livingston street, Asheville**; Milton V. Perry, Durants Neck; Elisha C. Williams, Greenville; Gerard H. Stamey, Lawndale; Cletus Lopp, Lexington; Kenneth Price, Murphy; John B. Stokes, Chicod; Oscar Dean, Raleigh; Monroe Harmon, Villas; George Mull Hhste, Edenton; Clinton Carelock, Marshville; John Moose, Mooresville; Herman L. Potts, Warsaw; Richard H. Swanson, Leasburg.

ONE YEAR AGO IN THE WAR.

French detachment recaptured summit of Monte Tomba and took 1,400 prisoners.

Riots occurred in Buenos Aires resulting from the popular demand that Argentina break with Germany.

SEDUCTION.

Miss Antoinetta Primsey was a none too youthful maid
Yet the matter of her comeliness was not to be gainsaid,
But she wore her hair severely, rather silvered around the part,
And her pussy-cat and china were the darlings of her heart,
Though her portrait of the General was the chiefest of her pets,
Smiling warmly from the mantel in Colonial epaulettes.

Most attractive was that General, bon vivant beyond a doubt,
And the maids declared them eyes o' his, they followed you about;
And the epigrams he'd uttered while he trod this lower sphere,
Were the vastly entertaining kind that ladies might not hear.
Though upon this great-grandcousin Netta's glances oft would stray
He preferred 'em young and flighty and he looked the other way.

But it happened one fine morning Jane was took extremely low,
And Miss Netta donned a boudoir cap to dust the bibelots;
And her silver hair was hidden, and her hands were soft as dew,
And her step was brisk and active in her haste to get it through;
And her cheeks through such exertions flushed a most beguiling pink
And behold, the General's eyelid fluttered downward in a wink!

Did Miss Antoinetta swoon then, of propriety the pearl?
No, she uttered what one might have called a giggle in a girl.
And,—I hardly like to tell it—but on each succeeding day
Jane, upon my word and honor, heard Miss Antoinetta say,
"Jane, the ornaments are priceless that adorn the mantel-shelf;
In the future 'twill be better I should dust them off myself."

—.R

Official Local Weather

U. S. Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau.

Local Weather Data for Dec. 20, 1918.

State of weather at 8 a. m., cloudy.
State of weather at 8 p. m., raining.
Relative humidity at 8 a. m., 76 per cent.
Relative humidity at 12:30 p. m., 62 per cent.
Relative humidity at 8 p. m., 94 per cent.
Wind direction at 8 a. m., south.
Wind direction at 8 p. m., south.
Time of sunrise, 7:37 a. m.
Time of sunset, 5:19 p. m.

Local Temperature Data.

8 a.m.	38	3 p.m.	42
9 a.m.	38	4 p.m.	42
10 a.m.	40	5 p.m.	37
11 a.m.	40	6 p.m.	36
12 noon	40	7 p.m.	37
1 p.m.	41	8 p.m.	42
2 p.m.	42		

Highest, 42; one year ago, 56.
Lowest, 36; one year ago, 23.
Absolute maximum, 58 in 1913.
Absolute minimum, 15 in 1910.
Average temperature today, 39.
Normal, 37.

Local Precipitation Data for Month.

Normal, 4.06 inches.
Greatest amount, 6.51 in 1914.
Least amount, 0.80 in 1903.
For last 24 hours ending at 8 p. m., .02 inch.

Telegraphic Reports of Temperatures for Today.

Station:	8 p. m.	Max.
ASHEVILLE	42	42
Atlanta	44	44
Augusta	52	52
Birmingham	54	56
Boston	46	52
Charleston	56	56
Charlotte	44	44
Chicago	50	52
Cincinnati	50	52
Denver	28	28
Galveston	62	64
Jacksonville	66	70
Miami	72	74
New Orleans	62	64
New York	42	52
Raleigh	44	50
San Francisco	50	56
Seattle	42	44
St. Louis	52	52
Washington	48	48

TEN NEW CASES ARE REPORTED IN CITY

Ten new influenza cases were reported to the health department yesterday by Asheville doctors. The health officials believe that with proper care and with elimination of all unnecessary meetings the disease may be kept in control, although they express some apprehension in regard to risks that may be taken during the holiday period.

A revised list of the number of deaths shows that only ninety-two Asheville people have contracted influenza here and died. The health department has made the revision, making separate count of all cases from outside the city. The total number of deaths in the city number 142.

JOHN SPAIN HELD FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Magistrate B. L. Lyda yesterday held John Spain for trial in Superior court on charges of attempting to aid prisoners in Buncombe jail to escape. Spain gave $300 bond. It is charged that Spain, who was in jail on an insanity warrant, was liberated last week and that in a few minutes after his release he re-entered the jail with a bundle of small saws. Spain claimed that he had bought the saws for the purpose of going to work as a carpenter. The officers assert that Spain tried to give the saws to Jerry Dalton, who is in the county jail charged with the double murder of Merrel Angel and a Miss Grant, of Macon county.

COLORED SOLDIERS GO BACK TO CAMP

Twelve hundred colored soldiers, members of a labor battalion that has been stationed near the Pink Beds in Transylvania county, were yesterday returned to Camp Sevier where they will be demobilized. The Southern railway furnished two special trains for the transfer.

These soldiers have been engaged in cutting wood for training camps in the south; but as the camps are to be abandoned soon the need for this fuel is ended.

BOY SERIOUSLY HURT IN BOARDING TRAIN

Cornelius Rice, a youth of 20 years, in attempting to board a passenger train at Craggy yesterday, was seriously injured in the leg and on the head. He was taken to the Mission hospital where his leg was amputated. At first his condition was considered critical but later advices were favorable to recovery.

SPENCER ELECTROCUTED.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 20.—Napoleon Spencer, Forsyth county negro, paid the extreme penalty of death today in the state prison for criminal assault on and murder of Mrs. Alva Hester in Winston-Salem. The prisoner was electrocuted at 10:30 o'clock without making any sort of statement as to the crime. The negro not only killed Mrs. Hester but killed her husband when he came to her rescue.

MISS WILSON TO SING.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of the president, has left Paris for a concert tour of thirty days among the American troops in the vicinity of Chaumont, where American headquarters is located. She is planning to sing on Christmas day at Gondrecourt, in the Meuse department, in the same region where the president will dine with the American soldiers.

SCHOONER OVERDUE.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 20.—The American motor schooner Risor, out of New York, is reported eight days overdue at Hampton Roads. While apprehensive for the ship's safety, agents think it is probable that the captain was forced to put to sea during the early part of the week.

WILL OPEN NEGOTIATIONS.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—(Havas)—The soldiers' and workmen's congress at Berlin, Thursday adopted a motion providing for the opening of negotiations with the allies for the liberation of occupied territories in order to prepare for the holding of elections next month.

VISITS CLEMENCEAU.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—(Havas)—Count Romanones, the Spanish premier, who arrived in Paris today for conferences with President Wilson and the allied representatives, visited Premier Clemenceau and Foreign Minister Pichon during the day.

The thimble was originally called a thumb-bell by the English, because worn on the thumb, then a thumble, and finally its present name.

WILL AID SOLDIERS TO FIND POSITIONS

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU TO BE OPENED SOON.

County Council of Defense and Other Organizations Held Meeting and Made Plans.

Plans for giving employment to returning soldiers were discussed yesterday afternoon by committees from the Defense council and other organizations interested in the welfare of men who gave up civil life to fight for their country. Those present were Chairman F. M. Weaver, of the Defense council; John H. Cathey, Soldiers' Aid committee; James M. Gray district farm agent; S. Lipinsky, Jewish Welfare board; M. A. Erskine, Knights of Columbus; S. G. Bernard, representing the fraternal orders; B. A. Patton, chairman of the county board of commissioners; President L. B. Rogers, Board of Trade; T. J. Rickman, Community Employment board; John Lindsey, Central Labor union. Headquarters will be opened in a few days and while the committees do not guarantee jobs they will make every effort to see that no man is idle who wants to work.

In this undertaking they will be aided by the War Camp Community service and it was requested that Rev. H. E. Robbins, secretary of that service, meet with the other representatives of welfare bodies at the next session.

One speaker yesterday afternoon referred to a well known man who up to the time he entered the army for service in the Spanish-American war could not write his name. The army began his education and aided him after the war to find employment. A few years later he was division superintendent for a large tobacco company.

Many men returning from the army will find their former positions open to them, it was noted at the meeting; but there are hundreds who will have difficulty in adjusting themselves to civil life. There are many, it was said who have during the war for the first time found themselves and realized that they are capable of labor, sacrifice and initiative. Some of these men, it was stated, before the war were not engaged in steady work and were inclined to become loafers. The organizations which met yesterday hope that loafing as a profession will be abolished in Asheville.

Speakers at the gathering recognized that the task before them is not easy, but they hope to have the cooperation of the people of the city and county. Through Farm Agent Gray and County Farm Agent E. D. Weaver the joint committee expects to get in touch especially with farmers who are in need of labor for their farms next year.

A new invention is an electric heater which may be placed in a bathtub after it has been filled to raise the water to any desired temperature.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETING:

Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction, by duly authenticated record of the proceedings for the voluntary dissolution thereof by the unanimous consent of all the stockholders, deposited in my office, that The Blue Ridge Development Company, a corporation of this state, whose principal office is situated in the city of Asheville, county of Buncombe, state of North Carolina (S. G. Bernard being the agent therein and in charge thereof, upon whom process may be served), has complied with all the requirements of Chapter 21, Revisal of 1905, entitled "Corporations," preliminary to the issuing of this Certificate of Dissolution:

Now, Therefore, I, J. Bryan Grimes, secretary of the state of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the said corporation did, on the 25th day of November, 1918, file in my office a duly executed and attested consent in writing to the dissolution of said corporation, executed by all the stockholders thereof, which said consent and the record of the proceedings aforesaid are now on file in my said office as provided by law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereto set my hand and affixed my official seal at Raleigh, this 25th day of November, A. D. 1918.

J. BRYAN GRIMES,
Secretary of State

S. G. BERNARD, Attorney. 9611-30-7-14-21

A THRIFTY PERSON

There is not a successful business nor an independent fortune in Asheville that did not have its beginning with a thrifty person.

Somewhere, some time, some one began to save—to save regularly and the first step toward fortune was taken. Then he kept right on; he saved with system. That was the secret of his success.

Being a weekly saver will also be the secret of your success. Every week you will be nearer your goal. Become a weekly saver at the Wachovia Bank and Trust Company. You will be paid four per cent interest, compounded every three months.

Start TODAY.

Wachovia Bank & Trust Co.
Capital $1,250,000

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Men's slippers so comfortable that they keep a man home evenings. Price:
$1.75 to $3.00

No article going to keep the boy or girl happier Xmas than a pair of new shoes. Price:
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House slippers for women in all the popular colors, the last word of comfort. Price:
$1.50 to $3.00

Nichols Shoe Co

Sunnyhurst LAUNDRY
A TRIAL IS ALL WE ASK
10—PHONES—2095
WE TREAT YOUR LAUNDRY WHITE.

START SOMETHING!

The government has asked that home industries boom now, to give labor for returning soldiers. Plan to begin that building work right now. The ban is off at last.

Citizens Lumber Company
Asheville, N. C.

Willys Knight
The car with the motor of "Eternal Youth." It loves carbon and hates the repair shop.
OVERLAND-ASHEVILLE SALES CO.
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Hartford Fire Insurance Co.
Phone 387
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ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Go To PALAIS ROYAL

FOR BARGAINS
Call at
The Gem Clothing Store
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THE LEADER
Ladies' Up-to-Date Ready-to-Wear.
Popular Price Store.
On the Avenue. Asheville, N. C.

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ROBINSON
THE EYESIGHT SPECIALIST.
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10 lbs. Craggy meal.. .45c
Grits, per lb..... .05c
Carnation & Pet milk .07c
Van Camp's milk.... .12c
Large can sliced Pine Apples .. .. .38c
Broken slices Pine Apple.. .. .. .28c
Grated Pine Apple.. .20c
White House Coffee.. .34c
Maxwell House Coffee .34c
Seeded Raisins 15-oz. 18c
Dromedary Dates ... .25c
Crisco .. .. .32c
2 Octagon Soap..... 15c
Pearl Soap ..... .05c
Wesson Oil ..... .38c
Black eyed peas, lb... .11c
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For Every Room
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