

SOCIAL

MESSRS. LAMBETH AND HUSKE TO NEW YORK. Mr. Walter Lambeth and Mr. John Huske left last night for New York city on a business trip.

RED CROSS OPEN TONIGHT. The Red Cross workroom in the Mint building will be open tonight from 8 until 10 o'clock for those who are unable to come during the morning hours. Mrs. Chatham and Mrs. Fowler will be in charge and hope for a large attendance.

MR. HEMBY HAS THE "FLU." Mr. Torrence Hemby is sick with an attack of influenza at his home in Myers Park. Mrs. Hemby, who has been suffering from the same malady, is about recovered.

HINSON-PHILLIPS MARRIAGE SUNDAY. Miss Willie Phillips and Mr. J. Samuel Hinson were married on Sunday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Phillips, in Winifred place. Rev. Myers, pastor of the Wilmore Presbyterian church performed the ceremony.

THIS EVENING AT THE Y. W. C. A. Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Allan will meet her class of business young women for the study of the Bible this evening at 6:30 o'clock at the Young Women's Christian Association.

The Current Events Club will meet this evening at the Y. W. C. A. at 7:15 o'clock, with Miss Florence Terry as leader.

DANCE A LA CHARLIE CHAPLIN. The officers of Camp Green will be hosts tomorrow evening beginning at 8:30 o'clock for a Charlie Chaplin dance at the Southern Manufacturers' Club.

Music will be furnished by the Fourth Recruit Jazz orchestra and all the young women who attend are asked to come in costume suiting the occasion.

MRS. CALDWELL TO HICKORY. Mrs. B. F. Caldwell left this morning for Hickory to spend the Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. D. Pope.

MR. LYNCH CONFINED TO HOME. His many friends will be sorry to hear that Mr. C. E. Lynch is sick at his home on North Brevard street.

MORE LETTERS FROM BOYS OVER THERE. Here are some more letters taken from the Army Edition of the Chicago Tribune from boys in France answering an enquiry as to which the American soldier preferred, French or American girls:

Editor Army Edition: The great majority of us have not had an opportunity to form intimate acquaintances with French girls. Certainly those who have been constantly at the front have not. And of the small percentage who have, only a few talk French well enough to say more than "Good day" and "Good by." So even if, in our acquaintance with French girls in their families, we may be struck by certain charming little traits—some pleasant little attentions to which American girls have not accustomed us—still those who have had this good luck will be so few compared with the entire A. U. S. F. that the American girls need not worry.

As a matter of fact, French girls of good family are inclined to be on the defensive where the American soldier is concerned. They are universally polite, universally attentive to his wants, which are multitudinous and clamorous, but "promenades," dates or even intimate conversations, they usually manage to evade.

French misses have some very charming traits, and the American soldier is not insensible to them. But no matter how enthusiastically he

may have been talking about his latest "cherie," he usually pulls out a faded snapshot of the girl back home and says, "There's the girl for me."

PVT. ALLAN P. SPANIGER.

Editor Army Edition: French girls are nice, but they can't compare with the girls who are worrying so much about their sweethearts and friends over here. We realize that the American girls require a lot of attention, and that they are worth it. This outfit would be only too glad to have their arms around their sweethearts now.

We wish you would publish this for the benefit of the girls we left behind. Hoping this meets with their approval and with all due respects to French girls.

Yours truly, Wagoner Harold Noll; Private Tom Gallegher; Wagoner Ben Kaplan; Wagoner Reggie Taylor; Pvt. Jack Quinlan; C. L. Scott; Battery F, 72d Artillery, C. A. C., all from Chicago.

Editor Army Edition: We must give the French girl all the credit they deserve. They strive to live up to what they have been taught, and in most cases they do. They are very attentive; they make a fuss over a man, especially an American soldier, because he is new to them. He is also willing to, and does spend lots of money to have a good time; spending more freely than they have been accustomed to, especially in the last three or four years.

For a change, or a novelty, the American man likes this new romance, but there is not one of them but what will tire of it. The American girl has studied, and knows the best way to hold his affection, and his respect. Every true American likes competition—he wants that which is hard to get—he wants to show his supremacy. Anything that is offered him on a "silver plate" does not appeal to him. It cannot be said that the American girl does not appreciate little things. They may not throw their arms about you, or shower kisses on you for little or big things, but you will find that they take note of every effort you make to please them. The American girl is striving to please, striving harder than her French rival, and she knows best what it takes to please. She knows that she must not only please for a day, a year, or even ten years, but that she must please for a life time.

Were it possible to put the question to a vote of the American boys over here, "Which manner do you like better?" in words well understood by the Americans: "It would be a 'landslide' for the girls at home."

SERGEANT WM. E. McCLURE, Headquarters, 312th Supply Train.

Editor Army Edition: For the most part, we are not meeting the upper class French people. Those of us who are stationed well back of the lines in branches of the service probably have had a personal association with such people in their homes. They are fortunate. Our officers, having broader privileges than the enlisted men, will most probably be the ones to call their wives "Mam'selle" after the preacher says the words that shall make them one. But in the short time that I have been in France, I have often asked the question, whether the heart turns back home to the girl left behind or whether it seeks nearer satisfaction. When I have asked it either within or without my own organization, the answer has always been in favor of the American girl at home.

Our good United States does things in a certain good way. Personally, I hope I may some day marry a thoughtful woman. No man can find a comrade, a pal, in a woman who is not thoughtful, which works both ways. We came over here, many of us, for a great lark and find it a serious business. We want to stay and see the thing done right. We don't want to go home until we can have the satisfaction of a job well done. But when we are on our way, we shall be so anxious to again get our feet wet on State street that we shan't wait for Pullman accommodations. The most of us take advantage of the first opportunity to renew first hand relations with the girl that has been true. Whatever may be the comparative

general tendencies of the girls of France and the United States, it is after all, still a matter of individuality. Many of our girls at home will have lost out by the time the boys come marching home but it is more apt to be in favor of some quiet little girl that more serious meditation has called again to our minds hearts than the girls we have met "over here." If our American girls are worried, let them remember that when a man marries he looks for a companion, and he does not always find that in the girl with the prettiest face or who wears the prettiest clothes or who dances the most gracefully. If I must marry, I'll look for the little woman who can be my helpmeet and at the same time teach my children to speak United States.

Few of the boys will remain in France and fewer will return with French wives. The rest of us will beat a path to the door of the dearest memory.

SERGEANT MAJ. BRYAN H. KYGER, 539th Engineers.

Editor Army Edition: They're all very pretty, as we understand, and to tease you, or please you, they're just simply grand. It's a mighty hard question for us just now.

For we're plugging and struggling to stop this row. Our mission to France was to fight and not dance. So the girls back home need not And the one that's for me is the best in the land.

A girl from our own U. S. A. PVT. FRANK J. COURTNEY, Patient Base Hospital 47, A. P. O. 265.

Editor Army Edition: I think that your article is a first class insult to any American soldier. Do you mean to come out and say that our own sweethearts and sisters are exorbitant and try to rule, and furthermore, do you think that there is a soldier in the United States army that is so narrow-minded as to slam his own people?

You may be a good editor, but you're a damned poor judge of human nature, and for all you know of American girls, you'd better pull in your neck and apologize to the American soldiers for your remarks.

Yours truly, B. B. SPELLOM, A. P. O. 733.

The above writer wrongfully assumes that the Army Edition is taking sides in this question, whereas it is simply a medium for the opinions of others. This paper has at no time advocated either view. However, the letter is cheerfully printed.—Editor Tribune.

FARMERS HOLD COTTON TIGHT

Char. Man Finds Interesting Condition in S. C.; Cotton Piled on Streets

Returning from a journey of several weeks over all section of South Carolina, Thos. Andrews stated today that the entire state of South Carolina is more or less aroused over the cotton situation and that cotton everywhere is being held for higher prices, the farmers and planters refusing to sell at the market figure, and contending that they ought to have at least 35 cents a pound for the staple.

"This condition," said Mr. Andrews, "is having a depressing effect in many lines of business, as the general stores are compelled to carry the accounts of the farmers who by holding cotton are not in position to make settlement of the year's accounts until their cotton is sold. Some of the farmers are borrowing money on their cotton and putting it in warehouses, but this does not appear to be the general rule."

"In Andrews, I saw cotton piled along the main streets for blocks, and on both sides of the street. Farmers have brought their cotton to town and dumped it out without protection or provision to keep it dry, and the result is that cotton is piled up not only in the towns and villages, but everywhere through the country."

It was in the state of South Carolina that one of the initial movements had its origin to hold for 35-cent cotton, and Mr. Andrews said that the farmers are not only holding cotton, but many of them are greatly agitated and stirred up over the situation. "Many of them are just about mad, it appeared to me," said the Charlotte man, "because of the fact that the price of cotton is not where they want it, and the whole state, so far as the farmers are concerned, appears to be together on this point."

Mr. Andrews declared that the scene which he witnessed in Bishopville was one that a man cannot soon forget. Bales of cotton heaped all along the principal streets and lying in water in many places, urged him to take care of itself until prices have risen to 35 cents, or until the farmers have changed their position and have decided to sell at market figures.

LIEUT. D. R. AUSTIN CAME THROUGH O. K. Dr. J. A. Austin today received a letter from his son, Lieut. D. R. Austin, stating that he came through all right but went through some exciting experiences. This was the first letter received since the signing of the armistice and Dr. Austin was greatly relieved to have heard from him in some time. Lieutenant Austin is an officer in the 81st division.

HERE TO ATTEND THE HUTCHISON FUNERAL. Joseph W. Little, of Wilmington, a brother of Mrs. L. L. Hutchison, has arrived in the city to attend the funeral of Mr. Hutchison which will be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, at the graveside in Elmwood cemetery.

BUILDING WORK AT LOW FIGURE

Report for November Showed Only \$15,250 New Work; Outlook Commented On.

Building operations in the city stood near the low record for November, according to figures secured from the city building inspector, R. P. Connelly.

For the 30-day period mentioned there was only \$15,240 invested in new work, part of this being repairs and additions. The actually constructed new building work is represented by only \$12,800.

Building Inspector Connelly believes that the new year will bring about much improvement in the situation. Government restrictions on new work are now largely removed, and real estate men and contractors are satisfied that there is a considerable bulk of new work that is only waiting for a favorable opportunity. The cessation of hostilities and the removal of government restrictions has not yet made a radical change in the situation, but builders are readily able to demonstrate the high cost of material and the as yet great shortage in man-power, are sufficient causes to hold back the expected development for a short while, until the country reaches a greater degree of readjustment than it has been possible to achieve in the one month since armistice terms were signed.

The fact is, however, well accepted that the intervention of war has caused the holding up of much construction work which will shortly be contracted for, so that a great stimulation of conditions is well assured for the early part of 1919.

EXCERPTS FROM HOME LETTERS

Relatives of Men in Service Furnish Contribution to Literature.

The following excerpts from letters received by the war department are of considerable interest, showing as they do the conditions at home in many families. They have been given out for publication:

"My son is in C-158 Infantry. Please let me know if he is living or dead and what is his address."

"I ain't got no book learning and I hope I am writing for inflammation. Just a line to let you know that I am a widow and four children."

"Previous to his departure we were married to a Justice of Peace. I have a four month old baby and he is my only support."

"I did not know my husband had a middle name and if he did I dont think it was none."

"As I needed his assistance to keep me enclosed in clothes. I am left with a baby seven months old and she is a child and cant work. I received my insurance polish and have since changed my post office."

"I am his only wife and hair. Please return my marriage certificate, baby has not eaten for three days."

"Dear Mr. Wilson: I have already written headquarters and received no answer and if I dont get one for you I am going to write to Uncle Sam himself."

"I am a poor widow and all I have is in the front. I am writing to ask you why I have never received my elopement. His money was kept from him the elopement which I never received."

"My husband has gone away to Cry, Ky. Palace. He got a few days turkey and has been on a mind sweeper."

"We have your letter. I am his grandfather and grandmother. He was borne and brot up in this house according to your letter."

"You have changed my little boy to a little girl. Will it make any difference?"

"You have taken my man to fight. He was the best I ever had. Now you will have to keep me. Who in Hell will it you dont."

"My Bill has been put in charge of a spittoon. Will I get more pay?"

"Please let me know if John has put in an application for a wife and child."

"I did not receive my husbands pay and I will be compelled to lead an immortal life."

"Please send me an allotment as I have a little baby and knead it every day."

ONLY 25 CASES "FLU" REPORTED

And Health Office Made Special Effort to Get Full Reports Today.

Influenza cases reported at the city health office today numbered only 25 for the 24 hours ending at 10 a. m. This record was declared to be very complete, the health department making special effort to get a full report by calling up a number of physicians who had not reported.

CITY TESTING ITS GASOLINE

Mayor States That Quality of Gas Was Found 8 to 10 Points Under Standard.

Because of general complaint that gasoline was not giving satisfaction to users, and on account of trouble experienced by the fire department in operating the fire apparatus which is provided with gasoline engines, the city has purchased an official hydrometer for ascertaining the specific gravity of gasoline, the quality by which the grade of all gas is measured, and as a result of tests that have been made, Mayor McNinch states that the quality of the gas tested showed up from 8 to 10 points deficient or under the standard which is accepted as representing a fair quality of gasoline.

The fire department recently reported considerable trouble in starting the big fire trucks in answering alarms, and the gas was suspected as the cause of this trouble. The tests made of gas that the city had purchased, as shown by the hydrometer, indicated a 10 per cent deficiency in quality, as stated by the mayor.

The owners of cars in the city have believed for some time that the quality of gas used was not as good as it had been and many cars were having difficulty in starting and in operating, for the reason, as alleged, that the gas was not up to standard.

Whether the government requirements of this article of manufacture are responsible for the alleged condition is not known. On the other hand it was stated today that tests of gasoline received here are made by officials, and that the gas has been passed up as of sufficiently good quality to meet the requirements of the trade.

The mayor has not stated what the city proposes to do to improve the quality of gasoline used, but it was expected at the city hall that an investigation and inquiry would be undertaken to bring light to the problem, and either show that the present quality of gas is an inconvenience of war that cannot be avoided, or that the quality can be improved.

ANNUAL HOG KILLING TIME

Great Event in the County Now Beginning; Valuable Pork Produced.

The present period is one of great interest and some excitement in the county over the whole south, for it is now the famous "hog-killing" time, an annual event that is more or less celebrated over the south by the killing of thousands of hogs specially fattened for the occasion, and for weeks to come there will be pork, sausage, ribs and bacon and country-cured hog meat in abundance.

Everybody in the country from the large land-owner to the humblest colored tenant, looks to "hog-killing" time as one of the unofficial festivals of the year in the county, and it is the signal for the beginning of a reign of plenty in the kitchen and on the table, three times a day, and the great American hog rules the board for several months, and while the cold weather continues.

During the past few days the weather bureau in this city has been overrun with calls from all parts of the country, from farmers and tenants, with hogs to kill, all of whom wanted to know if freezing weather were on the way, for to successfully kill hogs the weather should be cold.

The recent warm days proved very discouraging to the owners of fat hogs, and had the weather not grown colder last night, there would have been serious disappointment. It was not so cold today as the owners of the hogs-for-slaughter wished, but the weather conditions were far more favorable for hog-killing than they have been for ten days and today it was expected that thousands of fat porkers would be slaughtered and the work started of turning them into fine hams, lard, sausage and a score of other relishes that the hog yields to the expert meat cutter and cook.

The hog production of the country is more valuable this year than it has ever been, because of the high prices that prevail. Strips are selling as high as 70 cents per pound, and lard and other products are in proportion, so that a hog of even 250 pounds weight will represent a handsome sum of money.

It has been declared that a 300-pound hog, at 50 cents a pound, is worth as much as a good mule was valued at a few years ago.

FUNERAL OF YOUNG BOY HELD TODAY

In the presence of sympathizing friends and sorrowing relatives this morning at 10:30 o'clock at the home of deceased's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd W. Bangle on North Church street, Rev. Julian S. Sibley conducted the funeral services over the remains of Brodie St. Clair Bangle, aged 2 years, whose death occurred at 5:30 p. m. on Sunday.

"Will the Circle be Unbroken," "When He Cometh to Make up His Jewels" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" were sung, the service being concluded by the reading of a fittingly appropriate verses entitled "What do You Think the Angels Say," read by Dr. Sibley.

Many floral tributes testified to the warm place the little fellow held in the hearts of many whose life he brightened during its all too short course, and were beautifully suggestive of its freshness and infant purity. Interment was in the family lot in Elmwood cemetery.

PYTHIANS CALLED TO GATHER THIS EVENING

"The Prodigal Sons" of Charlotte Lodge No. 83, Knights of Pythias, have been especially called together tonight when there will be a general get-together of the membership and an informal Dutch luncheon and smoker. The meeting is called for 7:30 o'clock in Pythian Castle Hall, Piedmont building. All old and new members are urged to attend as there will be some interesting developments.

PURCELL'S - WOMEN'S GARMENTS OF QUALITY - PURCELL'S. Has She Umbrella Bags and Gloves? Umbrellas—of splendid quality silk with handles of ivory, sterling, natural wood in club and Dresden effect. Many have ivory tipped ribs and all have a delightfully feminine air about them that will much appeal to "her." Choice of green, plum, navy, brown and changeable at \$5 to \$9.50. Gloves of kid and mocha, in white, black and best suit shades. Any woman is charmed to have an extra pair or so. Learn her size and consult our glove saleswomen today. Prices range \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50. BARS Plain and fancy ones—leather, silk and velvet. Very fashionable shapes \$2.98, \$3.98 to \$10. PURCELL'S

WERE PRISONERS ON DEUTSCHLAND. New York, Dec. 17.—The British steamships Prinzess Juliana and Caronia, bringing small contingents of American military and naval men and civilians from England and France, arrived today. On the former were several groups of army and navy aviators. The Caronia's passengers were largely officers, Canadian, and Australian officers. Among them were naval Lieutenants J. H. Fulcher, of Frisco, N. C. and F. L. Muller, of Oakland, Cal., who spent 45 days as prisoners aboard the German submarine Deutschland. The two men, officers aboard army freighter Ticonderoga, from September 30, were among the survivors of what they termed a particularly ruthless attack by the U. S. They were taken to Germany by the captors and turned over to the British when the Deutschland, with other marines, was surrendered at Harlingen according to the terms of the armistice. The troop ship Maul from Brest with 64 officers and 2,161 men arrived. PORTUGAL'S NEW PRESIDENT Lisbon, Portugal, Dec. 17.—Antonio Castro has been elected president of Portugal in succession to Sidonio Paes, who was assassinated late Saturday night.

THIS WEEK ONLY. One lot MAHOGANY FLOOR LAMPS... \$10. One lot MAHOGANY BOUDOIR LAMPS \$7.50. Don't overlook this lamp offer. Such values were never offered before in Charlotte. We have more of these than we want and decided to make a Christmas Special of them to close out at once. We are sure you will appreciate lamp values enough to snap these bargains up at once. The Banner Furniture Co. Out of High Rent District. 305 E. Trade St. Phone 2537

New Spring Models Serge Dresses. These have just arrived and they are beauties. A lot of new Jersey Dresses also \$25.00 and \$35.00. Gift Blouses. A beautiful line of Crepe de Chine and Georgette Blouses in all colors. \$4.50 to \$10.00. Catanss & Company. Women's Apparel Exclusively 151 Tipton St.