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\$1.50 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE

JUDGE STEPHENSON VISITS JACKSON CO.

Judge Gilbert T. Stephenson, of Winston-Salem, Field Secretary for the North Carolina War Savings Committee, made his first official visit to Jackson County on Monday of this week. While the weather was so extremely bad that it became necessary for him to cancel his engagement at Cullowhee, yet his time was completely filled, making in all five speeches while here.

On Monday afternoon he visited the Sylva Tannery and Superintendent Powers assembled his men in the "pan house" where the matter was presented to them in a very clear and forceful way by the speaker. On leaving the extract department and reaching the main building of the tannery, President E. L. McKee suspended operations for a short time and gave all his men an opportunity to have the matter of "War Savings" presented to them. The action on the part of the officials of this, the largest manufacturing plant in the County, was highly appreciated and their patriotic service is commended to all. Results have already come from the efforts put forth to start the men working in these two plants to saving, in that more war stamps have been sold at this plant than at any other place in the County so far.

On leaving the Tannery, Judge Stephenson next visited the Sylva Collegiate Institute where Prof. Ingram very kindly suspended his work for one period so that the matter of "war savings" might be presented to his teachers and pupils alike. On Monday night in the Baptist church, the speaker delivered a stirring patriotic address to a large crowd, in which he brought home to them the realities of the war and the propositions which we were up against, closing his address with an appeal to the people of the County to invest in the "war savings fund" so that Jackson County may not fall behind in its allotment.

On Tuesday morning Judge Stephenson visited the Dillshoro Graded School and spoke for thirty minutes to the students, teachers and patrons, explaining to them the campaign in which he is so deeply interested. The students and faculty of this school pledged their support to the movement.

Judge Stephenson is throwing his whole life and soul into this work and is presenting it in a way which will have a lasting effect upon his hearers. He is one of the leaders among the young men of the State. He has given up a lucrative practice and is devoting the entire year of 1918 to this patriotic work in order that he may serve his country here so that it may be prepared to meet the needs of our boys when they go "over there."

DR. J. C. OWEN CALLED TO FRENCH BROAD CHURCH

Rev. Dr. J. C. Owen has been called as pastor of the French Broad Avenue Baptist church by the board of deacons. The call was extended last Wednesday night at a meeting of the board and announcement of the call was made yesterday afternoon.

Rev. Dr. Owen is missionary evangelist for the Baptist Home Mission Board and is well known to the Baptists of the south. He lives in Asheville, but most of his work has been done in other towns and states. He is expected to arrive here shortly to take charge of the work of the local church.

Rev. John Bomar, for several years pastor of the local church, recently resigned in order to enter Y. M. C. A. work with the army. Asheville Times.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS

Boys and girls, years after the war some little boy or girl may ask you: "What part did you take in the great world war?" What will your answer be? Will it be that you did nothing, or will it be that you "did your mite" by raising a pig, chickens or an acre of corn to feed the hungry soldiers who are willing to give their lives if necessary, for you and their country?

Germany has more hogs than she had at the beginning of the war, while the hogs herds of the Allies have nearly all been consumed, even many of the breeding animals. The number of hogs in the U. S. has been reduced. Illinois which usually produces next to the largest number of hogs of any state in the U. S. will have a very small surplus next year.

North Carolina has been asked by the U. S. government to increase her number of hogs this year 120,000. This means that Jackson county should raise at least 1,500 more hogs next year than usual. The boys and girls should respond to this call by joining the pig club.

The agricultural colleges have shown that hogs can be raised and fattened cheaper in the South than in any other section of the U. S. In this mild climate expensive houses are not needed, but in the North stoves are used in the expensive houses to keep the pigs warm. Moreover, quite a variety of grazecrops can be grown, thus reducing the cost of pork production as the growing season of the south is much longer than in the north.

Since the U. S. Food Commission has given assurance that the price of hogs next fall shall be governed by the price of corn there is no possible chance to lose in this game of raising pigs, for it means that hogs will sell for 26 cents per pound when corn is worth \$2.00, that is 13 to 1.

Any boy between the ages of 10 and 18 years may become a pig club member, but he must procure at least one pig and care for it himself, keep a record of feed and pastures used. The pig must be weighed when bought as well as when sold in order to determine the gain and cost of the gain.

Each member of the club must agree to study the instructions sent by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Each member should send one pig to the County Fair, the winner at the County Fair must send pigs to the State Fair. Either pure-bred or grade pigs may be provided, as the club member may desire. It is important to join as soon as possible.

The Poultry and Corn Clubs are very similar to the pig clubs. As it is impossible for the County Agent to see all boys and girls of the county this announcement is given in order that those interested may see him at his office at Sylva Court House any Saturday or write him at Sylva for other information. J. M. McClung, Co. Agent.

Is it possible for any one, after having heard Judge Stephenson on Monday night, to try to shirk the duty which is placed upon the shoulders of every man, woman and child in this great struggle? We are at WAR, yet few of us seem to realize it. We are eating as much as we are wearing as much, we are spending as much as we ever did. The spirit of sacrifice has not come home to us. Our own families have not suffered; our own homes have not been destroyed; our own boys have not been killed and wounded, and yet if we do not do our part, if we refuse or neglect to do that which we are called upon to do, when the day of suffering comes, we, in a large measure will be to blame.

Weekly War News Digest

Stories of Activities and Conditions Throughout the United States and on the Battle Fronts, from Washington, D. C.

APPLICATION FOR INSURANCE BY FIGHTING MEN NOW NEAR \$3,000,000,000

Application for war-risk insurance by men of the Army and Navy have nearly reached the 3,000,000,000 mark, and continue to come in at a rate of about \$65,000,000 a day. The average amount applied for per man is \$5,630, the average having increased steadily since the act went into effect, October 6.

For persons who joined the colors before October 15, 1917, the last day for applying for Government insurance is February 12, 1918. Intensive efforts are being made by commanding officers to have all their men take insurance before that date.

The maximum amount which may be taken by any man is \$10,000.

WAR CREDITS GRANTED TO ALLIES BY UNITED STATES - TOTAL OVER \$4,000,000,000

War credits extended to foreign Governments since the United States entered the war total \$4,246,400,000. Of this Great Britain received \$2,045,000,000; France, \$1,255,000,000; Italy, \$500,000,000; Russia, \$325,000,000; Belgium, \$77,400,000; Serbia, \$4,000,000.

LOWER REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO ARMY NURSE CORPS

Because of the great need for nurses for the Army Nurse Corps certain requirements have been waived for the period of the war emergency. Registered nurses are preferred, but registration may be waived.

Nurses between the ages of 21 and 45 will now be considered, as well as those who are graduates from hospitals of less than 100 beds. Under the temporary revision of rules they are not required to purchase new uniforms.

A nurse traveling under orders is given a first class ticket, Pullman car accommodations, and traveling expenses not to exceed \$4.50 a day.

GERMAN PAPER TELLS HARD-SHIPS OF SOLDIER'S FAMILY

The Committee on Public Information has made the following translation of a story appearing in the October 15, 1917, issue of the Leipzig Volkszeitung:

"A sample of the fashion after which bloated landlords treat the wives of soldiers has been brought to our attention from Upper Languan in Silesia. One of the hired men of Dr. Mueller's agricultural estate has been for a long time at the front. His wife, who had worked along-side her husband, before the war after the usual custom, remained in the ranks of the field hands and accordingly retained her farm cottage. October 1 this woman got the following letter:

"The undersigned bailiff of the estate hereby gives you notice as of this date to the field service to January 1, 1918. On that day you are to give up your house. The work which you are doing on the farm does not compensate the farm for the loss which accrues to it through the continued support of your family. Look out for yourself away from this farm, your house is needed for other use."

The woman communicates notice to her husband with these words: "I must tell you my distress, soon I shall not be able to see the paper for my tears. What shall I do? Winter is at the door and the

cottage is full of little children." "Thus the bailiff of the estate of a bloated landlord turns a family with eight children out of doors in midwinter while the man is at the front. Comment takes care of itself."

COUNTRY BOYS NOT PHYSICALLY SUPERIOR TO THOSE LIVING IN CITIES

According to records of the selective service, country boys do not show much physical superiority over those of the cities. For purpose of comparison selection was made of cities of 40,000 to 500,000 population, and a corresponding set of counties of the same total size. In the physical examination 28.47 per cent of the city boys were rejected, as against 27.96 per cent of the country boys.

SPRING PLOWING IN FRANCE WILL BE DONE BY TRACTORS FROM AMERICA

To increase France's crops and to lighten the burden of toil on her old men, women and children 1,500 farm tractors will go to that country from the United States. The first hundred are already on the way, and the whole number will be in France by March, in time for the spring plowing. Deck space was provided for the first shipment on a naval transport. Schools of instruction will be organized.

The acreage sown to crops in the uninvaded portion of France in 1917 was about 10,000,000 less than in 1913, or 24.4 per cent. The increased production through the use of tractors this year is expected to greatly improve the food situation.

GERMAN ALIEN ENEMIES IN UNITED STATES MUST REGISTER

Among the regulations for the registration of German alien enemies in the United States during the first week of February, are the following: All German males of the age of 14 years and upward are required to register. Notice of time and place of registration will be given by publication in newspapers.

The affidavit of each registrant must be accompanied by four unmounted photographs, signed across the face so as not to obscure the features, and the finger prints of each registrant shall be taken.

Between 10 and 15 days after registration each alien enemy must again appear before his registration officer to obtain a registration card, which will bear his name and his left thumb print. This card must be carried by the registrant for future identification.

An alien enemy who changes his place of residence to another place within the same registration district must at once report the change to the registration officer. No alien enemy shall move out of the district without a permit. Application for a permit must be made upon a form furnished by the Department of Justice, giving full particulars as to date, reason for change, and intended place of residence.

FOOD SUPPLY FOR FRANCE AND NEUTRAL COUNTRIES ON THE DE LINE

According to the Food Administration, shortage of wheat in France is becoming more and more acute each week. The amount of general wheat available in the country that is being consumed is 20 per cent in the bread ration would soon become imperative.

Denmark is now looking forward to a reduction of wheat rations. Final figures for the cereal harvest

show a total of about 62,000,000 bushels, which is 20,000,000 bushels less than in 1916 and about 10,000,000 less than was estimated in the summer, when the populace was put on bread rations. The authorities are already considering a further reduction in the allowed consumption.

The food situation in Switzerland is rapidly falling to the danger line. A ration that is far below the consumption in many of the countries at war has already been ordered. Under the new regulations the Swiss may have only a pound and a half of sugar per person per month. The bread ration has been fixed at fixed at about half a pound a day, and the butter ration at one-fifth of a pound a month.

Boys' and girls' clubs in northern and western States pledged for war service in gardening, canning, poultry raising, and other emergency enterprises have more than 800,000 members.

The winter of 1916-17 was the most disastrous the range stockmen of the West have ever known. The lamb crop for the entire West was 15 to 20 per cent below the average, and the calf crop was considerably below normal.

A fire proof solution for treating airplane fabrics is a thing which may be realized in the near future, experiments in a private plant having already developed a comparatively successful solution.

A RED CROSS CHAPTER FOR JACKSON COUNTY

We are pleased to announce that the Sylva Branch of the Red Cross will hereafter be known as the Jackson County Chapter of The American Red Cross, having jurisdiction over all Branches and Auxiliaries in the county.

An Auxiliary has been formed at Cullowhee, and is now working through our Chapter. They have fifty members and we anticipate valuable donations from them. Mrs. M. Buchanan, Mrs. E. L. McKee and Mrs. M. S. Mary Brinson will visit the work room this week, demonstrating the work being done by the Sylva Chapter.

Mrs. M. D. Cowan, chairman of the purchasing committee, reports that through the courtesy of the Wilson Brothers, she has been able to secure one dozen bolts of unbleached muslin, six bolts of outing, at first cost.

For our second shipment we have on hand forty finished bed shirts, fifteen dozen bandages and twenty comfort pillows. Pajamas and other articles will be added before shipment.

While we are gratified that we have reached the coveted two hundred members required for a Chapter, it is our aim to increase steadily in numbers and activity.

SELECTING SEED CORN AND TESTING GERMINATION

You plant seed from excellent plants that are prolific you are more likely to have a good crop. For this reason seed corn should be selected in the field. Like all seeds, the proper place to select seed corn is not in the crib but in the field where the whole plant may be studied, yet it is much better to select from the crib than make no selection. Moist corn, like the present year's crop is likely to be through "a heat" when stored in the crib the corn then loses its power of germination and "will not come up" when planted. For this reason it is especially desirable to test seed for germination because we cannot expect a good crop unless the corn "comes up" and gives us a good stand. Moreover, it costs

no more to prepare for planting and cultivating a field with a good "stand" of corn than one with a poor "stand."

In selecting seed corn one should have clearly in mind what he considers a perfect ear of corn and select only ears that approach that ideal type. This ear is about 9 inches long and 7 inches in circumference, measured three inches from the butt. It should taper only slightly and approach a cylindrical form. The rows of kernels should fit as closely as possible together, while the kernels should be deep.

The germination test can be made in a box 6 inches deep and 3 by 5 feet. This box would be large enough to test 100 ears. Fill the box up to one inch from the top with wet sawdust. A piece of white muslin should then be laid off in checks large enough to hold 20 grains of corn and spread over the moist sawdust. The checks should be numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., to correspond with each ear to be tested, which are now on the floor in rows and numbered 1, 2, 3, etc. 20 kernels of corn from each ear are placed on the check having the same number as the ear.

The box should then be covered with a saturated blotting paper or woolen cloth and set in a warm place to germinate. If conditions are favorable germination should start in five days. It should be borne in mind that three things are essential for germination; air, moisture and heat. The ears that do not germinate and those lowest in vitality as shown by the weak sprouts or kernels failing to germinate should not be used for seed, for they will cause vacant spaces in the field. If one kernel from each space fails to germinate the percentage of germination is 95, indicating fair seed corn. An inch of the tip grains and a half inch of the butt grains should be discarded.

Under ordinary conditions when corn is first husked in the fall it contains about 35 per cent moisture, this year more. If it is allowed to freeze in that condition the germination of the corn is greatly reduced. Hence it is important to dry the seed as quickly as possible. It takes a long time for the ear to dry, if not husked.

The seed ears may be taken to the house, tied in strings of 15 ears on each side and suspended on wires which are fastened to the ceiling or rafters.

J. M. McClung, Co. Agent.

NORTH CAROLINA TO EQUIP BASE HOSPITAL

A base hospital to be designated as No. 65 and served by North Carolina physicians and nurses, provided the latter are available, the hospital force to include 500 people or more, is now being organized by Dr. J. W. Long of Greensboro, chairman of the State committee Council of National Defense, medical section, for North Carolina. Dr. Long is authorized by the Federal Government to equip a base hospital at once to contain 1,000 beds and to be served by thirty physicians and surgeons, 100 nurses and 250 orderlies. The hospital will be located "somewhere in France" and is expected to be ready for use by May or June.

Dr. Long states that well qualified North Carolina nurses are preferred for this hospital work but adds that some lack of trained nurses from this State will be supplied by the Red Cross at Washington. A salary of \$50 per month and expenses is assured nurses who will be accepted for this work. Those interested in this call to patriotic service are requested to write to Dr. J. W. Long at Greensboro.

The medical staff chosen for this hospital will be presented to and passed upon by the Federal authorities before they are officially accepted.