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WAR, TAX AND OTHER TALK

A STRANGE-LOOKING SIGHT DRAFT IN EVIDENCE.

Ex-Senator Currin and Messrs Crawford Knott and Joe Baird Express Themselves in a Festgag.

Whenever you see a group of men with their heads close together you can wager that they are discussing the high cost of living and how best to solve the problem. Everybody seems to realize that a gang of speculators, now and hereafter known as "skunks," are responsible for the phenomenal rise in the necessities of life, and they also realize that the farmers in this section have not as yet benefited by the said rise.

In the presence of Messrs. Joe Baird and Crawford Knott, Senator Titus Currin last week remarked that he would like to see flour reach \$20 a barrel and remain at that figure until every farmer in Granville county regarded wheat as the money crop. At this point Mr. Crawford Knott suggested that flour should be standardized at \$11.50 per barrel. He stated that he and the majority of the farmers could grow wheat at that figure. All three of the gentlemen agreed that the Government should fix a price for the necessities of life and guarantee the farmers against loss either by fluctuation or speculation.

Irish potatoes on the local market are selling for \$9.50. A gentleman wanted a peck. The merchant measured them out and handed them to the customer and stated the price. "I have just arrived from Norfolk and I can get all the potatoes I want there at \$8 the barrel." The merchant remarked that he would like to buy a few barrels at that figure, and the customer in turn kindly furnished him the address of a wholesale merchant in Norfolk, and the potatoes were at once ordered. In less than twenty-four hours the local merchant learned to his sorrow that potatoes were selling in Norfolk for \$10.50 the barrel, but he managed to get three small baskets of new potatoes from the Norfolk house, which set him back the tune of \$7.50.

A strange thing in the shape of a sight draft was in evidence in Oxford Saturday. We saw the bill on the groceryman's desk and it read "25 barrels of flour at \$16 per barrel—\$400." We asked the merchant at what price he sold the flour and he told us that he only asked \$17 per barrel; that the most of it would be distributed to customers on thirty day's time, and that by so doing he ran a risk of losing the profit on the entire lot.

While nosing around, another groceryman showed us a meat bill. Fat back, was quoted at 22 5-8 @ 23 f. o. b., Richmond; breakfast bacon, f. o. b., Richmond 35 1/2. This same merchant put more money into his business during the past year than in any previous year and made considerable less.

In his letter, published in the last issue of the Public Ledger, Mr. P. W. Knott said:

"Let us not overlook the fact that before the farmer can be persuaded to grow much more food crops than he needs for home consumption they will have to be provided with a just and equitable system of marketing that will give him a guarantee against sustaining a loss."

The fact of the business is, Mr. Knott is a very fine man, and his public utterances stamp him as a friend of every man in the county, be he farmer, merchant or laborer, but it is well to keep history straight. Records on file in Oxford show that out of six hundred barrels of flour received here 426 barrels were consumed by the people living outside of Oxford, and of the ten thousand pounds of fat back sold in Oxford, 7,500 pounds went to the country. It would seem that there are also a few non-producers in the country. In bringing the lesson home it is well to remember that the meat and flour of the great West will be shipped abroad and that the people of Granville must feed themselves.

Among the many things that interest the countryman and the town man is the discussion of the war tax. While it is true this tax catches everybody in sight and some who may

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THE PURCHASING BOARD.

To Be In Operation by the Middle of the Summer.

Washington, May 14.—Centralization of the allies' purchasing need in a single commission, possibly in one man, is almost certain to result in the appointment of only Americans, or an American, to the commission. Officials feel that expert knowledge of American purchasing and selling methods, finance and economic conditions would be required to make the commission fully effective.

While the program still is in a formative stage, indications are that it will be definitely ratified by all the allied nations concerned, and that the commission will be in operation by mid-summer.

In setting up the proposed machinery of the new purchasing board, officials hope to accomplish, not only maximum effectiveness for the money which will be loaned to the entente governments, but to disturb existing business as little as possible.

One of the possible results, it is pointed out, may be a check to the soaring prices of all necessities.

DELIVERS MEMORIAL ADDRESS

Hon. D. G. Brummitt, of Granville, Speaks at Durham. (Durham Herald.)

The courageous spirit of the old Confederate soldier is alive today in the young manhood of the south and the south may be counted upon to do its duty in the defense of the principles of democracy," declared Hon. D. G. Brummitt, of Oxford, delivering the annual Memorial day address this afternoon in this city.

Representative Brummitt spoke in favor of the proposed increase in pensions for Confederate veterans, and advocated that the wearers of the grey walk the streets in their uniforms. The present war, declared the speaker, is a contest between humanity and the will to conquer regardless of consequences.

THE RED CROSS WORK.

Large and Progressive Chapter Being Formed in Oxford.

With a view of enlarging the work and be in unison with the National Red Cross Society, Mrs. R. C. M. Calvert, chairman of the local organization, called a meeting for last Monday to devise ways and means to establish the work here along business lines. The meeting was largely attended by the influential ladies and business men of Oxford.

Capt. Thad G. Stem was called to the chair and Mrs. N. H. Cannady acted as secretary. After Mr. A. H. Powell stated the object of the meeting it was decided to ask for a charter for a local chapter and enlarge the work to include the entire county. It was the consensus of opinion that nothing less than a well equipped chapter could do its part by the hundreds of men that must go from Granville. It was explained that the needs for surgical supplies, which includes bandages, sheets and garments for the wounded, and the necessities for the widows and orphans would be very great.

The chapter here is to be established along broad lines, and every man and woman in the county will be requested to affiliate. A large number of business men of Oxford have already signified their desire to give largely of their times and means. While the work will be prosecuted by the ladies, it is understood that the men must come to their rescue in the undertaking.

The following committee was named to ask for a working charter:

Mrs. R. C. M. Calvert, chairman; Mrs. H. G. Cooper, Mrs. John Webb, Mrs. de la Croix, Mrs. A. H. Powell, Mrs. J. C. Robards, Messrs. C. D. Ray, Rev. S. K. Philips, Augustus Graham, Jr., R. C. M. Calvert, J. Robt. Wood, A. H. Powell.

After the charter has been granted the working plan of the chapter will be fully explained in the Public Ledger.

At The Orpheum.

There is a very fine bill at the Orpheum this week. The Italian orchestra, which pleased the patrons so highly last week, will remain throughout the present week.

AUTO FATALITY IN OXFORD

JAMES OAKLEY VICTIM OF AW-FUL TRAGEDY.

Two Other Young Men, Messrs. Thomas Spencer and McLong Have Close Call.

It had long been predicted that Raleigh Road would be the scene of an auto tragedy and it came swift and sure last Sunday morning at the hour when the church bells throughout Oxford were calling the people to the house of God.

James, the seventeen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Oakley, secured the car of Mr. Rufus Boyde, mail carrier on Route 6, and he and two of his companions, Thomas Spencer and McLong, proceeded out Raleigh road, and just as the car was leaving the cement pavement at the town limits it bounded like a rubber ball, and while in mid-air the rear of the car arose with sufficient force to reverse its position, and over and over it tumbled three times, strewing its occupants along the highway.

James Oakley's head and breast were badly crushed. He removed skirts of towel and lingered between life and death only a few brief hours. The Spencer boy was also badly bruised, but his chances to recovery are said to be good. And the other occupant of the car, by the name of McLong, escaped with slight injuries.

Conflicting Stories. The two living occupants of the car state that they were not going over twenty miles an hour when the car bounded into the air. Judge Cam Hunt and Mr. James Rogers were on Raleigh street and heard the impact. They turned and looked toward the scene of the tragedy, some two hundred yards distant, and saw a cloud of dust which was so dense they could not distinguish the car or its occupants. They state that the car was not going very fast when it passed them. Their first impression after hearing the impact and seeing the dust, was that it had struck a wagon. A boy in the neighborhood tells the Public Ledger that he never in all his life saw a car moving quite so fast as this one was when it bounded into the air. Owing to the fact that the car tumbled and rolled forward for a distance of fifty yards no one doubts that there must have been considerable force behind it.

A Word of Caution.

There is no use to try to explain how the accident happened. The remains of the victim were laid to rest in Elenwood Cemetery Monday and his companion lingers between life and death. Is it the part of wisdom that a few must die to bring the living to a sense of realization? Raleigh road is the acknowledged speedway. The reckless, careless driver may have some regard for the life and limbs of those who live in the center of town, but when they turn the corner and sail down Raleigh road, they do it with that reckless abandon that partakes of the demon.

Give Dr. Scott Hunt, who lives at the corner of Raleigh road and Front street, a stop watch and empower him to make a few arrests and you will not hear so much about the narrow escapes on Raleigh road.

—The Garden and Forestry Department of the Woman's Club will meet at the home of Mrs. R. G. Lassiter Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock. The chairman, Mrs. Lassiter, requests a full attendance.

NOTICE

Do Not Operate Without License.

The last Revenue Act, Section 89, prescribes an absolute penalty of twenty per cent for engaging in any business or practicing any profession for which a license is required, without first having obtained a license therefor, and leaves no discretion with any officer to remit such penalty. Call at office or mail your check now! The license you now have expires May 31st, 1917.

S. C. HOBGOOD,
Sheriff Granville County

RUSSIA STANDS FIRM

Indignantly Rejects the Idea of Separate Peace.

Petrograd (via London), May 14.—The entire Russian proletariat indignantly rejects the idea of a separate peace, said M. Skobleff, a member of the executive committee of the Council of Workmen's and Soldier's Delegates, in reply to a question to-day concerning the visit to the front of representatives of the council. He said that every soldier who agreed to a separate peace with the Germans did harm to the cause of Russian democracy. The army, he declared, should be a powerful organization ready to fight. It must not be content to remain in the trenches, but should take the offensive, and carry out the movements which strategy demands.

MR. B. S. ROYSTER, JR. TO WED.

Announcement of the Engagement of Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Page Made at Aberdeen.

The Aberdeen special to the Greensboro Daily News will be read with deep interest by the many friends here of the prospective bride-groom who is the splendid son of General and Mrs. B. S. Royster:

"The Five Hundred Club was entertained Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 6 at the home of Mrs. Henry A. Page, at which the announcement of her daughter, Elizabeth, to Beverly Royster, Jr., of Oxford.

"Mrs. Lee Page received the guests at the door and they were taken into the dining room where punch was served before they were shown into the living room where six tables were arranged for five hundred. The living room and dining room were filled with pink Killarney roses, in the parlor and dining room were baskets of pink and white peonies.

"Score cards handpainted with pink roses were handed each guest before finding their places at the tables. After several hands were played refreshments were served, consisting of pink ice cream frozen in heart shapes and small cakes iced with pink. Tied to each cake with pink ribbon was a card on which was written the announcement.

"Miss Page is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Page, of Aberdeen. She was educated at Fessifern and Sweet Briar and has recently returned from London where she was the guest at the American embassy."

Mr. Royster graduated at the University of North Carolina last year and this year received his degree in the Law School there. He is a fine young man physically and mentally and was one of the first in the State to tender his services and went into training at Chapel Hill. In response to a call he left Oxford last Sunday to report to the commanding officer of the reserve officer's training camp, Fort Oglethorpe.

COMMEND OUR COMMISSIONERS.

Hard For People to Realize Gravity of Situation.

The Public Ledger shares the opinion of the great majority that the county commissioners are doing a wise thing in appropriating money to carry on a campaign to impress upon the people the necessity of raising and saving more foodstuffs. It is hard for the people to realize the gravity of the crisis this country is facing. Except for the mounting prices of foodstuffs people in this section could hardly believe the necessity for greater efforts to produce foodstuffs exists. But the Public Ledger believes that the town folks need education along this line perhaps more than the folks in the country. Part of the money appropriated by the commissioners should be used, it strikes the Public Ledger in prodding the towns folks into activity.

Corinth and Knotts Grove.

Rev. J. D. Harte will preach at Knotts Grove Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon and at Corinth Saturday afternoon. Mr. Paul Daniel will preach at Corinth Sunday morning.

—Possible the man who growls about the washday dinner would find it more pleasing to his taste if he had done the washing.

TEN MILLION MEN ARE LIABLE

DIRECTOR OF CENSUS SAYS TENTH OF NATION'S PEOPLE INCLUDED.

North Carolina's Share on July 1, 1917, is Placed at 199,400 Men Eligible to Conscription Order.

(Washington Special)

Ten million men in the United States will be subject to the selective conscription on July 1 within the ages agreed upon in the conference report on the war army bill, Director Rogers of the Census Bureau, announced today. This number of men between the ages of 21 and 30, inclusive, represent very nearly the total estimated population of between 103,000,000 and 104,000,000 on July 1, 1917.

Of these conscription eligibles the bureaus estimates North Carolina will have 199,400; South Carolina 137,300; and Virginia 186,400.

HUMAN INTEREST STORY

High Cost of Living Brings a Tear.

There are those among us who have not as yet realized that the high cost of living is dangerously near to the door of those who have been accustomed to plenty.

In former years, a man drawing a salary of \$18 a week could support a wife and two or three children and look the world straight in the face, but not so now. With flour selling at \$20 a barrel, fat back at 26 cents the pound and "blind robins" at 30 cents a dozen and other things in proportion, it requires the greatest of skill and self denial these days for the wage earners to make both ends meet.

We met a wage earner coming out of a grocery store Saturday evening and there were tears in his eyes. He told us that the four or five small bundles under his arm represented his week's wages.

"There is not enough in these bundles," he said, "to give the kids three square meals a day, and I don't see how I'm going to make it."

And so it is, the wage thinks his lot is the hardest, and so does every other man who tests the buying power of the almighty dollar.

The day is not far distant when you wish you had some of the spare cash which you once let slip through your fingers as nonchalantly and pleasantly as though it were so many grains of sand. But if you don't look to your family budget now and learn how to proportion your money rightly so that you know where to cut the corners and where to save your're not going to get very far."

THE ARISTOCRATIC PIG.

Thirty More of Them Placed by the National Bank of Granville.

One year ago the National Bank of Granville placed thirty old pigs with the boys and girls of Granville, and they thrived so well the Bank decided to place a like number out this year, and the distribution which took place in front of the Bank last Saturday attracted considerable attention.

List of Those Who Got Pigs.

J. M. Burwell, H. B. Tilley, S. V. Morton, C. H. Averett, E. L. Mize, J. T. Daniel, N. J. Jones, S. H. Mize, F. M. Haskins, R. L. Pratt, Frank Frazier, J. W. Brummitt, Carrie Tilley, S. H. Usry, Ralph McDowall, W. B. Bragg, W. L. Freeman, D. L. Haskins, E. S. Jenkins, G. W. Hart, Ellis King, E. H. Bragg, Dewey Averett, W. H. Fleming, Otis Dickerson, L. Thomasson, Noah Longmire, Julian Adcock.

The Endless Chain.

One can scarcely realize the amount of good the National Bank of Granville is doing in fostering live stock farming. By letting out the pigs they vitelize the stock raising along scientific lines. They do this without immediate reward, knowing that when the industry grows the Bank will reap a reward by the industry they were instrumental in creating. With more than sixty pigs already placed out by the bank, the endless chain grows larger at a rapid rate, and in a few years there will be thousands of pigs where there are only hundreds today.

Of the world's production of copper it is estimated that 60 to 70 per cent is used in the electrical industry in normal times.