

PUBLIC LEDGER



PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY — TOWN AND COUNTY OFFER BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITIES — ALL HOME PRINT

VOLUME XXXIII.

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27.

NUMBER 16

TWO AND A HALF MILLION MEN FORM AMERICA'S FIRST LINE OF DRAFT.

The Questionnaire System Places Half Million More Men in Class One Than Was the Original Estimate of General Crowder.

(Washington Special)

Two million and a half perfectly fit men will form America's first line of draft reserves. Provost Marshal General Crowder's office estimated.

Represents Class One.

This represents the approximate number of draft registrants of class one that will be found fit for military duty as a result of the questionnaire system. It is about 500,000 more than the original estimates of General Crowder.

20 Per Cent Disqualified.

Although exact figures are not yet available officials stated the total number of class one men will be approximately 3,116,000. The percentage of physical disqualification is estimated at not more than 20 per cent. and probably less because of the recent lowering of physical requirements. The percentage of 20 per cent. would mean that about 6,202,000 would be rejected, thus bringing the number of available men down to 2,496,000.

Four Million Placed.

In classes four and two about 4,000,000 have been placed; practically equal numbers being in each division. These classes are largely made up of married men and those with dependents. Class five will have a million men because those physically rejected from class one will be classed there. About 750,000 will be found in class three.

The New Army.

The second draft for the National Army will be due in April, certainly not later than in May, and there is going to be demand for room that will tax the resources of the War Department.

CAROLINA NEGRO SOLDIERS ATTRACT MUCH ATTENTION.

Negro Regiment From Camp Jackson March Through Streets of Columbia.

(Columbia Special)

Three thousand soldiers of the Eighty-first division, supported by a strong battery of artillery, with pack trains a telegraph battalion and all full equipment marched through the principal streets of Columbia, Friday. Brigadier General George W. McIver and his staff and state officials occupied the reviewing stand. A negro regiment composed of negro select men from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee attracted much attention.

FIRST 500 MILLION AT FOUR AND HALF.

Sect'y. McAdoo Offers Block of Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness.

Another \$500,000,000 block of treasury certificates of indebtedness in preparation for the third Liberty Loan was offered for subscription tonight by Secretary McAdoo. They will bear interest at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent. as against the previous high mark of four per cent and will be payable next May 28. Subscription books will close March 5 and payments must be made between February 27 and that date.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM.

The Greatest Female Impersonator on the Stage.

"The Varmint," featuring Jack Pickford and Louise Huff, a charming love story, will be seen at the Orpheum this Tuesday night.

Do you believe in ghosts? Whether you do or not, see the "Haunted House" Wednesday night.

"The Countess Charming," featuring Julian Eltinge, the greatest female impersonator on the stage, Thursday, matinee and night.

Double bills Friday and Saturday, matinee and night.

Wood For Next Winter—

To insure a supply of fuel for next winter, cut wood now, says Director B. W. Kilgore of the Agricultural Extension Service, who has been asked to serve as a member of the advisory committee of the State Fuel Administration. Indeed, it seems likely that if it is not prepared, some real hardship may be experienced next winter which will make the smaller fuel troubles of the present winter pale into insignificance.

DEATH OF PROMINENT CITIZEN OF CREEDMOOR.

Mr. Badger G. Rogers Was Laid to Rest Sunday

The entire county was grieved by the news of the death of Mr. Badger G. Rogers, of Creedmoor, which occurred on last Friday night after a short illness. The funeral was conducted Sunday afternoon at Creedmoor in the presence of many sorrowing friends from the surrounding country.

Mr. Rogers was the head of the firm of B. G. Rogers & Co., which did an extensive business in Granville, Wake and Durham counties. Mr. Rogers was well known and well liked by all who knew him. He was one of the most successful business men in Granville county. He was about 40 years of age.

OXFORD GIRLS VICTORIOUS.

The Greensboro Girls Played a Good Game.

The Greensboro basketball team of girls came Friday and played the Oxford team Friday evening in the armory. The game was spirited and played with enthusiasm. The result was in favor of Oxford by a score of 20 to 19.

At the close of the game the young people enjoyed a pleasing party and refreshments. The team from Greensboro was chaperoned by Miss Walker of the faculty.

The Oxford basketball team of boys are eager to play for the State championship.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

Throw Away the Old Time Table and Ask no Questions.

Read this short lesson in Government ownership:

Before Government control this was a usual question:

Passenger—What time are we due in Raleigh?

Brakeman (politely)—Six-fifteen.

After Government control:

Passenger—What time are we due in Raleigh?

Brakeman (aggressively)—When we get there.

BACK YARD GARDENERS.

Some of the Old-Timers Consult the Zodiac.

The activity of the plowmen is seen in many back lots in Oxford, but here and there you will find an old-timer searching the heavens for a sign.

"Those who plant by the dark of the moon shall not reap," says the old-timers, but the younger generation is making hay while the sun shines, regardless of the phases of the moon.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS.

All Enlisted Men Will Wear Identification Numbers.

In order to assure prompt and accurate identification, the War Department has adopted a system of numbering enlisted men of the Army. The system provides for one series of numbers, without alphabetical prefix (for all enlisted men). The number assigned to a soldier will become a part of his official designation, and will never be changed nor assigned to another man. It will be entered on identification tags.

JUDGE DEVIN IN DURHAM.

Two Murder Cases Features the Criminal Term.

Judge Devin, who is holding court in Durham this week, is faced with a heavy docket. Two murder cases feature the criminal term. In each case a negro will be tried for killing another negro. Ed. Bossieu will be given a trial for life for killing Herman Hayes, and Lonnie Council is to be tried for killing Rebert Jones. The wife of Robert Jones is held as an accessory to the crime.

Fifty-three cases are on the docket for trial. This number will probably be enlarged by appeals from the recorder's court during the week.

I DESIRE TO SELL THE OLD LANDIS PROPERTY ON MAIN STREET IMMEDIATELY.

And those who are waiting for death or any misfortune to force the property to be sold at a sacrifice will be disappointed, as I have made arrangements with friends to protect my property and my interest.

M. B. LANDIS.

RUSSIAN CAPITAL MENACED ON FOUR SIDES AS GERMANS MARCH TO PETROGRAD.

Supreme Test of War at Hand as Complications and Military Activities Grow—The Russians Are Practically Offering no Opposition.

HOW PETROGRAD IS MENACED.

1—By the German northern army which has occupied Walk. This city lies 212 miles southwest of the capital as the crow flies. From Walk a strategic rail runs to Pskoff, 90 miles eastward, thence straight to Petrograd, 175 miles to the northeast.

2—By the German troops landing at Reval. This Esthonian sea base lies 200 miles southwest of Petrograd and is connected with it by a direct railway—a twenty-hour trip.

3—By the German warships at Reval. A naval drive stright through the Finnish gulf to Kronstadt would be impracticable now owing to ice. Troops could be landed, however, at Narwa (Invangorod), 112 miles east of Reval, whence the distance to Petrograd is only seventy-five miles.

4—By the German troops landed "somewhere in Finland." These may be fifty miles or they may be 200 miles from Petrograd. Their movements are veiled in secrecy.

THE LURE OF FREE LAND.

Germany is emulating Napoleon, and like him her armies may return from Russia even as did those of the Little Corporal. For every man Germany sends into Russia she will need as many to keep open her lines of communication; men to provide food and munitions; men to look after the wounded and sick. Her soldiers, used to German military tactics, are very likely to be harassed by guerilla warfare to which they are not accustomed, and which is apt to break the morale of the men. But the greatest menace comes from the lure of free land, promised by the Bolshevik propaganda. Whether Germans as individuals will be able to resist the temptation to annex a personal slice of Russia, whether they will be able to resist the spread of Bolshevism, with all its glittering fallacies, remains for the future to tell. But Germany's march into Russia will not be a holiday parade, despite the disorganized condition of affairs and the prevalence of anarchy, for the Bear that formerly walked like a man may rise as he has done so often in the past and crush the invader in his mighty paws.

According to advices received in London, the underlying cause of the resumption of hostilities is the refusal of Russia to pay \$4,000,000,000 indemnity to Germany and to cede to the Tueton empires all of Poland, Lithuanian, Riga and Moon Island.

THE VICTIMS.

Two hundred and four Americans lost their lives on the Tuscania, according to the latest figures. Of this total there have been identified and buried, three officers and 137 men; unidentified, buried, one officer and 31 men; missing (presumably went down with the ship) 32 men.

A FINE EXAMPLE.

A Soldier Boy Contributes Liberally Towards Building Church.

In a public address recently, Rev. G. T. Tunstall stated that on his rounds, getting pledges to build a new church, one young man contributed \$100 and stated that he will arrange for the church to receive the second hundred dollars if he is killed on the battlefields.

Get Into the Parade.

On the last page of this paper will be seen the announcement of the Long Company's display of ladies' footwear. Get ready for the Easter parade.

The Reliable Brands.

On the last page of this paper it will be seen that Lyon-Winston Company has the things the farmers need, consisting of fertilizers, farm implements, seed potatoes, etc.

CAPT. BLAIR ACCIDENTLY SHOT IN THE FOOT.

As a Result of a Drinking Man Resisting Arrest.

A farmer came to town last Saturday and got his hands on some of the stuff that robs men of their minds. After he drank it down all was blank to him for several hours. Officer Hutchings tried to reason with him, but he was too far gone to see or hear him as he reeled about the streets in a dazed condition. He was in such a deplorable condition Officer Hutchings thought that the lock-up was the best place for him to cool off, but the drunken man thought otherwise and resisted the officer. As the officer cracked him across the head with the butt of his pistol the weapon was discharged, the bullet striking Capt. Blair, who was standing in the street near at hand, lacerating his foot.

Capt. Blair was hastened to Dr. Thomas' office, and after a critical examination it was found that no bones were broken.

There have been so very few drunks on the streets of Oxford in recent years the incident created considerable excitement. It is understood that he did not get the liquor in Oxford.

HEAR THE DISTINGUISHED LADY

Will Speak in the Court House Thursday Night.

Mrs. Charles T. Fuller, General Field Secretary, Southern Division, American Red Cross, will be in Oxford on Thursday, February 28th, in conference with the Granville County Chapter, and at 7:30 p. m. in the court house will address the people of the town and county. Mrs. Fuller is an entertaining speaker and is well informed on all phases of the Red Cross work and the public generally is urged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn something about the real work of the Red Cross. The Granville County chapter is anxious to give Mrs. Fuller a large audience.

FISHING PARTIES FORMING.

Mr. John Williams Brings in the First Catch of the Season.

Mr. John Williams visited his farm last week near Lyon's Mill and returned with a long string of fish, which he was honest enough to say he bought from one of the men down that way. The big perch, red eyes and red fin varieties excited Messrs. A. P. Hobgood and Sam Averett, and they are now arranging for a big fishing frolic and a night on the banks. Fish are plentiful this season, say the old sports.

RAILWAY SMASH-UP.

Twelve Persons Killed on Southern Near Columbia.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 25.—Twelve persons were killed, many seriously injured and 100 more or less seriously injured when train No. 42 from Asheville and Spartanburg ran into the rear of a train from Greenville last Monday afternoon near Frost's station, five and a half miles from Columbia. Both were Southern Railway trains.

BISHOP CHESHIRE COMING.

To Administer the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation.

The Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire D. D., the Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, will visit St. Stephen's Church for the administration of the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation, or Laying on of Hands, on Wednesday, February 27. Service in the Church at night 7:45 o'clock. All are welcome and cordially invited to be present.

Soldiers Kill Rabbits.

Sergeant R. L. Williford, the fine son of Mr. L. T. Williford, of Berea, writes interestingly to friends of a rabbit hunt the soldiers at Camp Fuston enjoyed recently. All hands at the camp turned out and captured twenty-five hundred rabbits. The rabbits were sold in a bunch to one man and the proceeds donated to a worthy cause.

Appreciate Courtesies.

The Philathea Class of the Oxford Baptist church announce the extensive success of their turkey supper last week. They are grateful for the patronage of the public and express particular appreciation to Messrs Wood, Wiggins and McGhee for special services and courtesies.

GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED PRICE OF 1918 WHEAT IS RAISED BY WILSON.

Placed as High as \$2.28 a Bushel in New York and in Varying Figures Ranging Down to \$2.10 at San Francisco—Designed to Stimulate Production and Prevent Holding Back the Crop.

Washington, Feb. 23.—President Wilson today raised the government guaranteed price for the 1918 crop as high as \$2.28 a bushel in one primary market and in varying sums in all other primary markets except four.

Acting under authority of the food law, the President thus met the agitation in Congress for higher prices and took steps to stimulate production and prevent holding back the crop while the agitation was going on.

The prices fixed, the President declared, would assure the producer of a reasonable profit. On the basis of No. 1 northern spring wheat and its equivalent, the President fixed prices as follows:

Chicago, \$2.20; Kansas City, \$2.15; Minneapolis, \$2.17; New York, \$2.28; Newport News, \$2.27; Charleston, S. C., \$2.27; San Francisco, \$2.10; New Orleans, \$2.20.

A SPLENDID PATRIOTISM.

We Go to the Broad Fields of Kansas to Find the Ideal Patriot.

The unpatriotic slacker who is taking refuge behind women's skirts, baby coaches, and all other technicalities that he can bring into play to avoid military duty, should contemplate the fine example of William E. French, of Mayfield, Kan., and then hang his head in shame.

French was drafted early in the autumn, and immediately appeared before the local board. "I own a four-hundred-acre wheat field," said he to the officials. "Give me time to plant it, and I will be with you." The request was granted. Planting his wheat, he reported for duty, and is now in the training camp.

Not only a patriot, but a producer. Not only a soldier, but a provider. In two splendid ways he is helping to sustain the integrity of his country, while so many others are unwilling to serve in one.

THE APATHETIC PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY.

Too Few Have Been Able to Understand That Geographic Distances Have Been Eliminated.

We hear much of war activities elsewhere and of the intense war spirit abroad in the land, but here in Oxford, except for the persistent work of the women of the Red Cross Chapter, periodic campaigns for various war funds, recruiting posters, war stories in the newspapers, the uniforms of soldiers home on furloughs and war prices, there are few indications that the country is engaged in, and every day is becoming more deeply involved in, a struggle that will determine the future prosperity and existence of our government. On first impression this apathy would be ascribed to a lack of patriotism, of love for, and loyalty to country. A clear knowledge of our people, however, precluded any idea of a lack of patriotism. It is not that; it is that we are lacking in realization of the true state of national and world affairs, and that we, being uninformed, are prone to give credence to rumors partially, or wholly, false and sinister.

Too few of us have been able to understand that geographical distances have been eliminated; that a powerful unscrupulous movement in another hemisphere even that runs counter to the basic ideals of our nation threatens America with destruction just as surely as a hostile army landed on our shores.

Being uninformed and not thoroughly aroused as to the true condition, people here and elsewhere are prone to seize upon and be convinced by questionable rumors of wrong motives that come from any source.

Spoke in Oxford.

Dr. Hart, of New York, representing the Russell Sage Foundation was a guest at the Oxford Orphanage over Sunday. A large congregation heard the distinguished visitor at the Methodist church Sunday night, his theme being the welfare of children.