

HOW THE U. S. ARMY FED ITS 3,700,000 SOLDIERS

One Meal, on a One-Man Basis for War Period, Cost \$727,000,000; Doughboys Ate 800,000,000 Pounds of Roast Beef

Soldiers who fought against Spain in 1898 lost in weight on an average of 22 pounds each; the average American soldier at the end of the fighting in 1918 weighed 12 pounds more than he did when the selective service act or his own volition brought him into the army.

Thus the success won by the army's subsistence branch in the great war is epitomized in chapters of the official war "material" history made public by the war department.

The food problem of an army of 3,700,000 Americans is visualized in the history by considering the force as a single man and the entire war period as one dinner hour. Articles comprised in the army ration assumed these tremendous totals:

Roast beef, 800,000,000 pounds; bacon, 150,000,000 pounds; flour (bread), 1,000,000,000 pounds; butter, 17,500,000; oleomargarine, 11,000,000; baked beans, 150,000,000 pounds; onions, 40,000,000 pounds; corn, beans and peas, 150,000,000 cans; tomatoes, 100,000,000 cans; prunes, peaches and apples (for desert), 107,000,000 cans; sugar, 350,000,000 pounds; coffee, 75,000,000 pounds; evaporated milk, 200,000,000 cans.

The bill for this "meal" amounted to \$727,000,000 to Dec. 1, 1918, the per capita cost having risen from 4 cents in 1897 to 48 in 1918.

At the time of the armistice American soldiers in the France were consuming 9,000,000 pounds of food daily. Moving this stupendous quantity over the 3,000-mile line of communication was the principal obstacle to be overcome. This and the necessity for conserving cargo space led directly in the later months to the shipping of dehydrated vegetables to the American expeditionary force.

"The problems were solved only by the assistance of the American food industry," the report says, and while instances were found of food specifications being violated, these are declared to have been very few and in most instances not intentional.

The emergency ration of the American soldier, designed to be used only in cases of extremity, was perfected during the war to consist of three cakes of beef, prepared with a bread compound of ground cooked wheat, each cake weighing three ounces; three one-ounce cakes of chocolate, three-fourths ounce of fine salt, and one dram of black pepper.

A special ration was designed for the use of invalid soldiers, including potted chicken, dried eggs, puddings, etc.

Importance attached to the supply of fresh coffee for the men is evidenced by the decision to ship the bean in the green form and have it roasted near the front. This led to the invention of portable roasters capable of handling several tons a day.

"Noting that tobacco has established its claim to a recognized place in the soldier's life," the report says probably 95 per cent of the American expeditionary force used the weed in one form or another. Monthly shipments averaged 20,000,000 cigars and 425,000,000 cigarettes.

The soldier's sweet tooth was satisfied by a monthly shipment of 300,000 pounds of candy during the early part of the war, but this was increased in November, 1918, to 1,373,300 pounds, and the following month the war department made candy a part of the regular issue, one and one-half pounds being issued to each man every month. A close companion in popularity was chewing gum, more than 3,000,000 packages a month being consumed.

More than half of the fifth Liberty loan would be required to pay for the clothing and uniform equipages of the American army. One chapter of the report gives a short history of the events which led the government finally to take over the domestic wool clip and to commandeer the output of practically every factory.

Interesting statistics are given of economies effected by changes in design. For instance, elimination of lacings and eyelets in trousers saved \$17,000,000, and the redesigning of the coat cut the cost of this garment \$5,000,000. Expert cutters reduced the consumption of cloth 23-100 of a yard, and saved 2,300,000 yards on the total order. Cotton textiles produced for the army would furnish a strip three feet wide and of sufficient length to wrap eighteen layers around the equator.

Innovations resulting from shortages in material included the substitution of American dyes for the German produce and the use of vegetable "ivory" in button making.

The activities of the quartermaster corps (afterward taken over largely by the bureau of purchase, stores and supply) included also the furnishing of shoes, boots, hats, fuel, oil, paints, tools, harness and harness equipment, and even music. Prominent composers volunteered for the work of selecting a "balanced ration" of jazz and more restrained orchestration for the army bands.

To give the American aviator the surest fuel possible the department took over every drop of "25.7 degree fighting naphtha" and confined its use to the service planes actually on the front.

Conservation of shipping space resulted in the revolutionizing of packing methods. Clothing was compressed into bales, shoes shipped in bags and trucks were disassembled and crated. The New York baling plant, according to the report, saved the government \$55,000,000 in tonnage expenditures.

A score of persons were killed and 100 injured in an explosion at the Douglas Starch works at Cedar Rapids last week. Of the 150 men and boys who had just gone to work in the night shift few escaped injury or death.

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR IS TO REPORT ON FEELING HERE

There is much interest in Washington in the fact that Senor Ygnacio Bonillas, ambassador from Mexico, is planning to go to Mexico City for a month's stay to take up with his government questions concerning the relations between the United States and Mexico. He left this week.

The ambassador says he is going to Mexico City at his own suggestion. It is understood he will place before his government at first hand the feeling created in the United States as a result of the killing of Americans by bandits. He denied specifically that he had been summoned to Mexico City by President Carranza because of the attitude of American officials in opposition to the petroleum legislation that has been enacted and proposed new laws now before the Mexican congress.

The ambassador declined to discuss specifically the subjects he expected to take up with his government, saying that depended upon circumstances and upon the disposition of the Mexico City authorities. It was believed, however, in official circles in Washington that President Carranza's recent announcement opposing the Monroe doctrine, the question and the Villa revolution were among the important subjects to be discussed.

Regarding the Villa revolution, Bonillas said President Carranza was concentrating troops in Chihuahua City and Torreon with the purpose of crushing the rebellion. The ambassador said the flower of the Mexican army was being sent to the north to stop Villa's depredations.

"I have been here two years without leave," Mr. Bonillas said, "and I am anxious to report conditions here to my government. You may be sure that I shall do everything in my power to increase the friendly relations between the two countries and to clear away the misunderstandings that have arisen both in this country and in Mexico City. I am a strong opponent of the future relations between the two countries, and I shall do what I can to bring about a most cordial entente between them."

AMERICANS AID IN A RAPID ALLIED DRIVE

American railroad troops are playing an important part in the rapid advance of the allied troops southward along the Murmansk railway, says a dispatch from Archangel. The bolsheviks, as they move southward, are destroying bridges. The Americans, however, are working hard putting the track into shape again.

American motor launches have been brought on flat cars from Murmansk to operate on Lake Onega, which connects with the Neva river and Petrograd.

The artillery continues active on the Archangel front, and there are occasional raids, but no serious fighting. Several hundred American infantrymen are still in the fighting line on the Dvina and Vaga sectors. They soon will be relieved. American engineers, however, continue to work on nearly all sectors.

GREAT CHANGE IN THE SITUATION IN RUSSIA

A great change has come over the situation in Russia through the successes of the various anti-bolshevik forces there, says a dispatch from London. Official and unofficial news of the last few days show Petrograd is closely threatened by the Finns and Estonians on either side of the Gulf of Finland and by that of Gen. Maynard in the region of Lake Onega, while bolshevik attacks on the Archangel front have ceased. In addition the bolsheviks have apparently been unable to check the advance of Admiral Kolchak's forces west of the Urals.

The London Daily Telegraph says the British and allied policy of helping the Russian opponents of the bolsheviks to help themselves still remains in force. It says the situation today is that the movement led by Kolchak is in a fair way to stamp out bolshevism.

Admiral Kolchak, it is added, is being assisted by British non-combatant troops commanded by Col. John Ward, a laborite and socialist.

TOM GWIN IS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO DEATH

A special term of Superior Court was convened Monday morning, with Judge Webb of Shelby presiding and Solicitor J. J. Hayes representing the State, for the purpose of trying Tom Gwin, a negro, charged with criminal assault upon Miss Ruth Hildebrand, aged 16, while on her way home from the graded school in Hickory April 29. The grand jury came into court in a body and reported that they had found a true bill against the defendant for the crime as charged in the bill of indictment. The prisoner, after the crime was committed, was taken to another county for safe-keeping after an attempt to lynch him. The prisoner was arraigned according to the bill of indictment and a special venire of forty men was ordered to be present at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The judge warned all persons present of the importance of observing the law and order during the trial.

Seldom if ever was there seen more people at one time crowded in the court house when the prisoner was brought in. The people stood on benches and in windows in order to get a peep at the prisoner as he was brought into the court room. The prisoner seemed much excited by the crowd and the surroundings. He presented a monstrous appearance for a human being. His hair was shaggy and his clothes very dirty and ragged and, upon the whole, he hardly had the appearance of a human being.

Only a few witnesses were examined for the State. The jury got the case at 3:10 and returned a verdict of guilty at 4:20, being out only ten minutes. Judge Webb then sentenced the prisoner to be executed on the 27th day of June next.

20,000 MOTOR TRUCKS FREE TO STATES FOR ROAD WORK

More than \$45,000,000 worth of motor trucks are about to be distributed by the secretary of agriculture through the bureau of public roads to the State highway departments. These trucks have been declared surplus by the war department and are being distributed to the states under the provisions of section 7 of the postoffice appropriation bill. They must be used by the states on roads constructed in whole or in part by Federal aid, for which \$200,000,000 in addition to the former appropriation was given to the states under the same bill. At least the states must do to acquire the use of these 20,000 trucks, which range in capacity from two to five tons, is to pay the loading and freight charges.

Of the 20,000 motor vehicles to be acquired practically free by the states, 11,000 are new and 9,000 are used, but all are declared to be in serviceable condition. The motors will be apportioned to states only upon request of the state highway departments on the basis of the requests received from the respective states, and in accordance with the apportionment provided in the Federal aid law approved in 1916. The requirements of the law are such that the bureau of public roads cannot distribute any trucks to counties or individuals.

PRESIDENT SAYS TO MAIL CHECKS TO SOLDIERS NOW

Payments of past dues and current allotments to families of soldiers and sailors and dependents of war veterans will be made by the Federal war bureau without waiting for the President's signature. Authority to send the checks forward "without a moment's delay" was cabled to Secretary Glass by President Wilson after the President had been informed that the \$45,000,000 deficiency bill had been passed by Congress. The measure is on the way to Paris.

C. & N.-W. RAILROAD SCHEDULE

Chester and Lenoir
Train No. 10 Ar. Lenoir 12:45 p.m.
Train No. 9 Lv. Lenoir 1:35 p.m.
Lenoir and Edgemont
Train No. 64 Ar. Lenoir 9:30 a.m.
Train No. 64 Lv. Lenoir 1:00 p.m.
Train No. 65 Ar. Lenoir 7:20 p.m.
Train No. 65 Lv. Lenoir 8:30 p.m.

ALLIES HAD TWO PLANES TO ONE OF THE GERMANS

Airplane strength of the allied armies on the west front when the armistice was signed was greater than that of the Germans by more than two to one, and Italians outnumbered Austrians by four to three in machines, according to official reports to the war department. In "balloon strength" the Germans were declared to be superior, with 170 craft to 144 for the allies, of which the Americans had 23, French 72, British 43, and Belgians 6 in use. Of the airplanes in service British units comprised 1,758 machines, French, 3,321, American 740, and Belgian 153.

A GOOD RECORD FOR CATAWBA CANNING GIRLS

Three hundred women and girls, enrolled in the canning clubs of Catawba county, canned 60,000 jars of fruits and vegetables last year. Of this amount 40,000 containers were kept for home use. Much canning and bottling was also done by club members of the county.

GERMANS WON'T RESIST INVASION ON THE WEST

It is learned by a correspondent at The Hague on advices from Berlin from the immediate entourage of Prime Minister Scheidemann that the German cabinet, in the event of rejection of the peace terms, does not contemplate resignation. On the contrary, it is under obligation to remain at its post since it believes itself to enjoy the confidence of the majority. Should the entente make a military advance in the west no resistance whatever will be offered. All available forces will be employed, however, against any advance of the Poles in the east. Whatever happens, upper Silesia will be defended by force of arms. Threats are heard that if the government has anything to do with extraditing the kaiser from Holland things will be published which will be very detrimental to Prime Minister Scheidemann, and which date from Scheidemann's period of office under the kaiser.

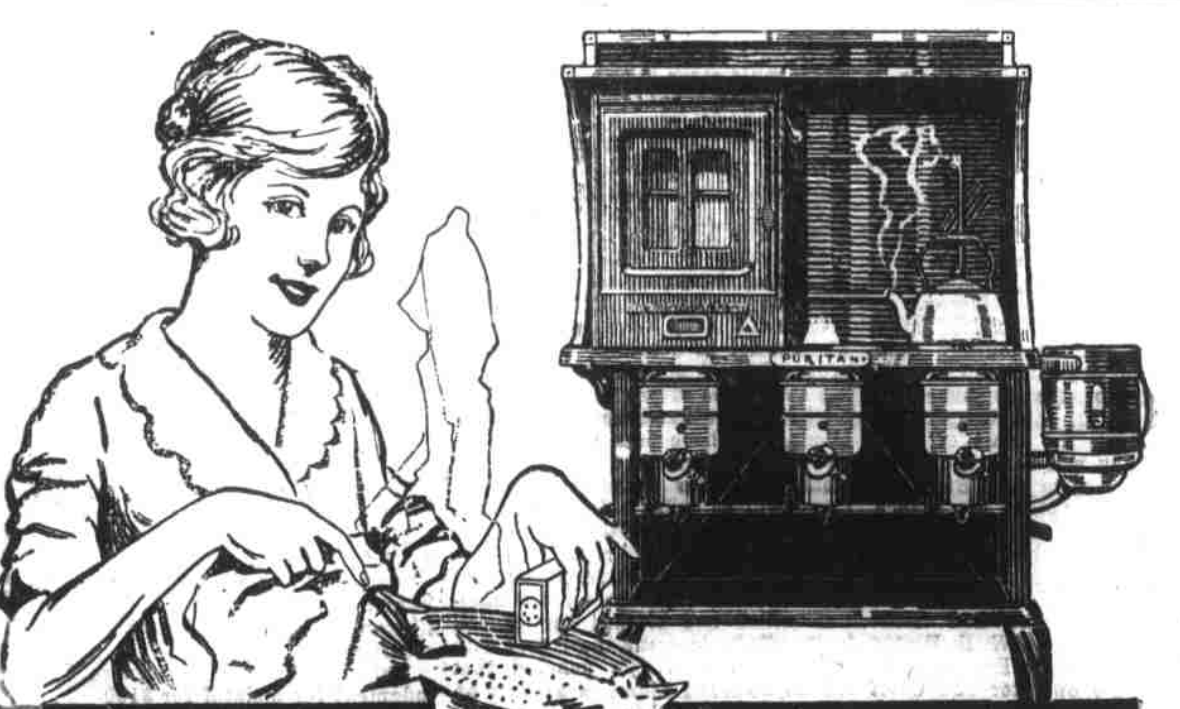
Dr. J. H. Shuford, proprietor of the Richard Baker hospital at Hickory, has returned from Camp Dix, N. J., where he was discharged from the medical corps of the United States army after serving as major in France for several months, part of was looking unusually shriveled the time during the hard fighting. He will reopen his hospital at Hickory as soon as possible, it is understood.

SUMMER COLDS

Many have their worst colds during the warm months. A very little of Scott's Emulsion after meals, puts that quality into the blood that helps thwart that rundown condition that is so depressing. Build up your vitality—try Scott's.
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