

KEEN INTEREST IN THE SHIP PROGRAM

Moore Than Two Billions Wanted For Next Year.

FOR CONCRETE SHIPS

Wilmington Greatly Interested in the Plans of the Shipping Board.

THE CHANNEL PROJECT

Senate Adopts the Program for Rivers and Harbors as Sent Over by the House—Simmons' Statement

Washington, May 10.—North Carolina, and particularly the coast city of Wilmington, has a decided pecuniary and patriotic interest in estimates submitted to the house committee on appropriations by the shipping board and emergency fleet corporation covering the shipbuilding program for the next fiscal year.

For shipbuilding and expenses connected therewith the shipping administration asks a total of more than \$2,000,000,000, and it is learned that it is proposed to allow from this vast sum fifty millions for concrete ships.

Many of these millions must necessarily be spent at Wilmington, where a concrete shipyard is under way. Although the shipping board may possibly establish two additional concrete ship establishments on the south Atlantic coast, the North Carolina city has the edge on the situation because it is the first to equip itself for turning out concrete vessels.

Assuming that congress will allow the shipping board all it asks—since statements of this and other allied nations all agree that ship construction is the key to America's participation in the war—it will readily be seen that the general estimates submitted to the house committee bear vitally upon the industrial development of the Tar Heel state.

Concrete Ships.

An official of the shipping program practically confirmed reports that it has been decided to invest fifty millions in concrete ships. Naturally the city of Wilmington already started in the construction of concrete vessels, will share liberally in this appropriation.

The first concrete ship was constructed recently by private interests at San Francisco. While final tests as to the waterproofness of the vessel have not been officially reported, the experiment has gained sufficient recognition both in congress and at the shipping board to merit the expenditure of a reasonably generous sum for construction of a number of vessels.

For a time the shipping board was understood to be averse to spending fifty millions for concrete ships unless congress would appropriate specifically for them, or give a sufficiently large lump sum appropriation to justify the board setting aside a number of millions for concrete construction. If the house committee allows the large sum asked today, however, it is understood to be the purpose of the board to allot fifty millions to this work, regardless of specific authorization.

Unless there should be an unexpected fall down in the tests of the concrete ships, the government will go right ahead making them as auxiliary vessels to the steel and wooden fleet. That the government has fostered a concrete shipbuilding yard at Wilmington is perhaps the best indication of the initial faith of Uncle Sam in the venture.

Shipping Board's Estimate.

Officials of the shipping board submitted to congress today total estimates of \$2,223,000,000 for the shipping program. This includes \$1,300,000,000 for new contracts, \$55,000,000 for building ships in Japan; \$25,000,000 for improved terminal and docking facilities at ports, \$5,000,000 for the operation of ships, including the Dutch vessels, by the shipping board, and \$10,000,000 for the recruiting of officers and men.

The project of the board of army engineers in favor of a new channel for the port of Wilmington, while given the support of Senator Simmons, has been met with a vigorous protest on the part of the administration and carried out by the house and senate members in charge of the rivers and harbors bill.

Despite the efforts of the senior senator from North Carolina the policy adopted by the rivers and harbors committee of the house and the commerce committee of the senate to include no new projects in the pending bill, makes Wilmington, so far as any increase in the appropriation for the Cape Fear river is concerned, utterly helpless.

Channel Project.

In calling attention to these efforts which he has made in behalf of this project, Senator Simmons, from his office issued the following statement: "Senator Simmons stated that he had made a vigorous effort in the committee on commerce in favor of increasing the amount carried in the rivers and harbors bill as passed by the house for maintenance on the Cape Fear and also for the adoption of the recommendation of the board of engineers in favor of a new project for a 30-foot depth below Wilmington.

"The committee, however, decided to follow the rule adopted by the house and recommended by the administration, which is that the bill should carry no new projects, except such as the engineers reported as being necessary for war purposes.

"The engineers did not report the

PRESIDENT'S MAIL-BAG LARGEST IN THE WORLD

Great Volumes of Mail Received at the White House Every Day.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—President Wilson's mail-bag is the largest in the world. Since the commencement of the war the volume of mail received at the white house executive offices has increased several fold. Thousands of letters arrive daily. They come from all parts of the United States, in fact, from nearly all parts of the world. All classes of people are represented among the writers. Some are personal friends or acquaintances of the president, but the vast majority of them are totally unknown to him either by name or reputation. Men and women alike appear to have the habit of taking pen in hand to complain of anything that is not to their liking, or to offer a suggestion as to how the war should be conducted. To the credit of the fair sex, however, it may be added that the most of the letters of a nonsensical nature come from the men.

Every letter of any importance receives the president's individual attention. Of course, he is not able to read all his correspondence himself. This difficulty is overcome by a carefully-developed system by which the contents of the white house mail-bag of any consequence are laid before Mr. Wilson each day.

The work of selection falls upon a corps of confidential clerks, who work under the general supervision of Secretary Tammity. These clerks open the letters and give them a first reading. Then they are carefully sorted. Many of them, as before stated, new project as being of that character. But for this rule, strongly supported by a majority of the committee, the senator said, doubtless there would have been no opposition to the adoption of the new project and appropriation of the amount recommended by the engineers for it.

"The senator expressed regret that although he tried very hard to convince the department that it should modify its report in this respect, he was unsuccessful.

"With reference to maintenance, Colonel Newcomer, in behalf of the department, stated to the committee that there would be \$98,538 left over from the appropriation of the present fiscal year, which would be available for the next fiscal year, and that that sum added to the \$42,000 carried in the house bill making about \$140,000, would be all that would be needed for maintenance of this waterway for the next fiscal year."

Mr. Small's Position.

In reporting a rivers and harbors bill providing only for wartime projects the house committee on rivers and harbors, headed by Congressman Small, felt obliged to carry out the wishes of the administration. The administration has taken the position that both in rivers and harbors and public buildings improvements, expenses should be cut to the quick during war time and that only the most vital projects, from the standpoint of national defense and commercial necessity, shall be appropriated for.

Under this wartime policy the house committee restricted its bill and Chairman Small and his colleagues were obliged to cut out many local projects which would have been exceedingly meritorious in times of peace.

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are opinions or suggestions relating to the war or questions of national policy. Many of them are mere rubbish, but not all of them are to be so classed. Some of the writers are well known as scientists, educators, business men or others, whose opinions are worthy of attention. These letters, after courteous acknowledgment, are referred to the proper departments and placed on file until the matter can be taken up for consideration.

Hundreds of the missives are purely formal, or contain impossible requests. These are immediately answered by the staff, and signed by one of the president's assistant secretaries.

Such communications as the president ought to see are clearly briefed—that is, a slip is pinned at the top of each letter, and on this is a type-written synopsis of its contents, telling who the writer is and what he has to present.

Frequently the president is sufficiently interested by the brief to cause him to read the whole letter. Sometimes the communication is referred to a member of the cabinet, to the head of one of the departments or bureaus, or, perhaps, to the chairman of one or another of the commissions created since the commencement of the war. In this case the slip is retained at the white house executive offices and filed.

Requests for charity are continually pouring in. These, however, are sent to a separate department, which goes fully into each one before replying.

When a large number of persons write the president on the same subject the letters are bunched, and the brief at the top gives the names of those who present one argument, and on another list are given the names of the persons who offer a different view.

Mike Brady, the well known professional golfer, has joined the naval reserve in San Francisco. Brady spent the winter as professional at the Brentwood Country club, at Santa Monica, Cal.

Whenever You Need a General Strengthening Tonic.

Take the Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. It contains the well-known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON and is very valuable as a general strengthening tonic. It purifies and enriches the blood and you can soon feel its Strengthening, Invigorating effect. 60c.

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CRUSHING PLANT AT BADIN BURNED.

Winston-Salem, N. C., May 10.—A dispatch from Badin last night announces the burning of the crushing and mixing plants of the Hardaway Construction company, which has been building a dam below the big aluminum plant. The loss is estimated at between \$50,000 and \$75,000. Operations will be suspended for a while. Both plants will be rebuilt as soon as material can be secured.

As Jack Dempsey, the Salk Lake heavyweight, will be hot on the trail of the winner of the Willard-Fulton match, it is doubtful if the victor of the coming bout can stay out of the ring as long as did Willard after defeating Johnson.

SAVES WOMEN FROM TORTURE

Put a few drops on a touchy corn, then lift corn out with fingers

Your high heels have put corns on your toes and calluses on the bottom of your feet, but why care now? For a few cents you can get a quarter ounce of the magic drug freezeone recently discovered by a Cincinnati genius.

Apply a few drops upon a tender, aching corn and instantly, yes immediately, all soreness disappears and shortly you will find the corn so loose that you lift it out, root and all, with the fingers.

Just think! Not one bit of pain before applying freezeone or afterwards. It doesn't even irritate the surrounding skin.

Hard corns, soft corns, or corns between the toes, also hardened calluses on bottom of feet just seem to shrivel up and fall off without hurting a particle. It is almost magical. It is a compound made from ether, says a well-known druggist here. (adv.)

THE NEW CALOMEL A PERFECT SUCCESS

Calotabs, the newly perfected calomel, is absolutely purified from all of the unpleasant, sickening and dangerous qualities of the old-style calomel tablets, as they are much more effective as a liver cleanser and system purifier, yet are entirely free from all objectionable qualities.

The new Calotabs are sold only in original, sealed packages; price, thirty-five cents. Your druggist recommends and guarantees them.—Adv.

RHEUMATISM

Physician Believes a Genuine Remedy for the Disease Has Been Found

Rheuma, the wonderful rheumatism remedy sold by R. B. Bellamy and all druggists, gives quicker and more lasting relief than other remedies costing many times as much.

Rheuma passes the deadly poisonous secretions into the bowels and kidneys from which they are quickly thrown off in a natural, healthy way.

Read what a reputable physician says about Rheuma: "I have made a most careful investigation of the formula employed in the manufacture of Rheuma, and I heartily recommend it as a remedy for all forms of rheumatism. I find Rheuma far in advance of the methods generally employed in the treatment of rheumatism, and altogether different in composition from the remedies usually prescribed."

Dr. M. C. Lyons.

This should give any sufferer from rheumatism confidence to try Rheuma.—Adv.

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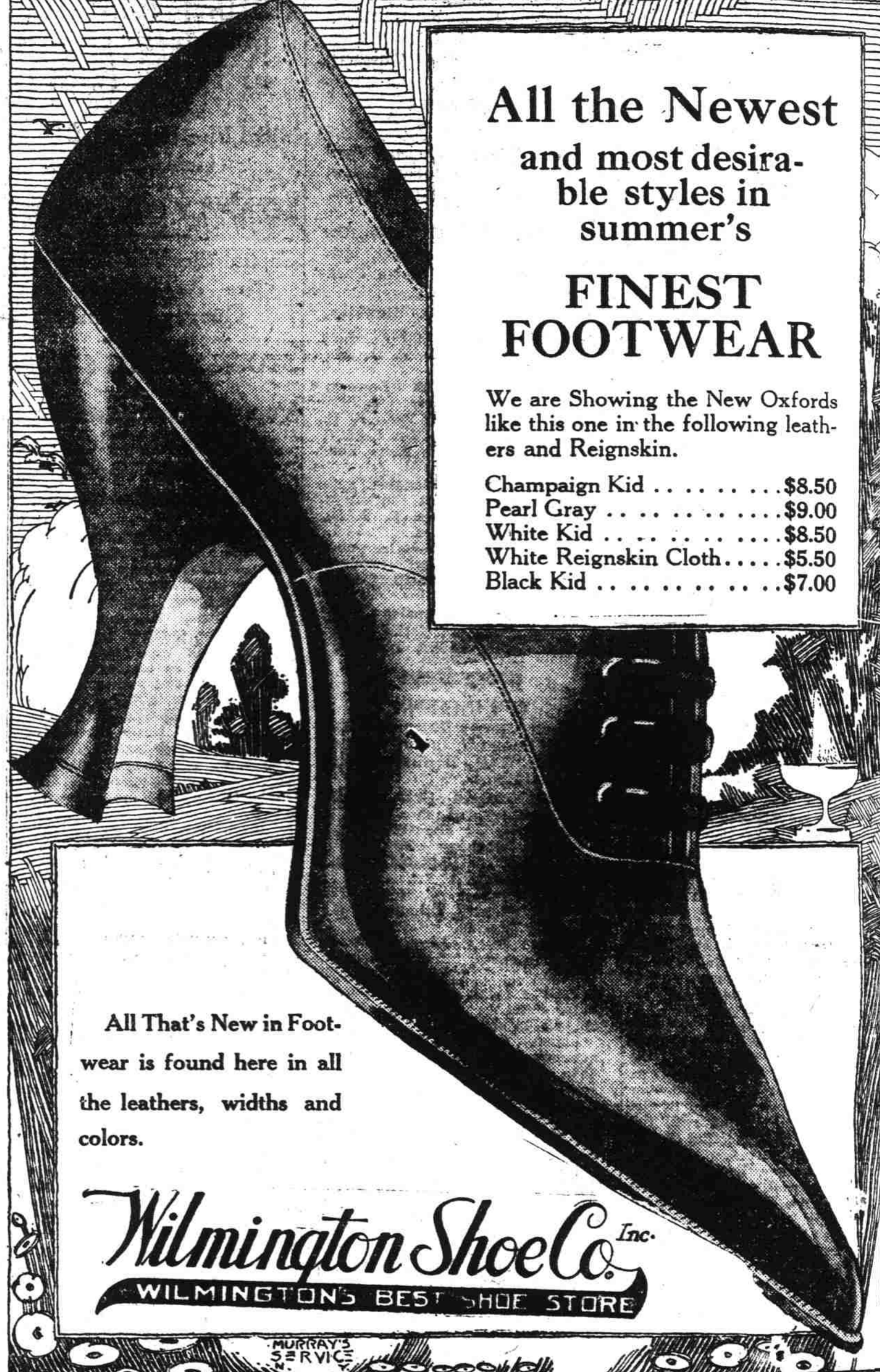
Jack Blackburn, the veteran colored boxer, is making a fairly good showing in his efforts to edge into the ring game again.

TAX LISTING!

We will be at the Court House during the month of May daily, except Sundays, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. for the purpose of taking Tax Lists of Wilmington Residents and Property Holders.

Attend to This Duty in Time to Avoid the Penalty for Neglect.

B. F. King
H. K. Nash,
Tax Listers for Wilmington Township.



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White Reignskin Cloth	\$5.50
Black Kid	\$7.00

All That's New in Footwear is found here in all the leathers, widths and colors.

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