

## RALEIGH'S AEROPLANE MEETS REQUIREMENTS

Model Machine Has Been Accepted by the Government, Says Report.

(Special to The Dispatch.)

Raleigh, May 10.—Raleigh's aeroplane has been accepted and the model manufactured here has a place in the fighting forces of the nation.

This is the news that comes indirectly but certainly and Raleigh that lost cantonments and ordnance camps may develop a mushroom city in three shakes. For the manufacture of such machines the government has positions for 7,500 men, a representative from Washington said today, and Raleigh can get them if she can do the work.

Raleigh lost the other big things through varied hard luck. There was unplaced Fayetteville and that city had been robbed virtually after every body in town had settled down. Then citizens locally hammered the representatives in Congress for allowing Virginia to import North Carolina into the Old Dominion. Now it is up to Raleigh. It has the small airplane factory at the Chamber of Commerce can bring 20,000 people here shortly if it can deliver.

The plane presented by Harry N. Atwood, noted aviator, is one designed for speed and simplicity. Nothing in the message received here indicated more than governmental satisfaction with the machine that Atwood and his associates are turning out. Great things are expected of it and despite the well-kept secret that the airplane has been accepted, there is joy among the few who know it.

**Fight Over Pool Rooms.**  
The city commissioners who last week ordered the pool room owners to close their places after May 31, have up the issue of allowing them to remain open until November to allow the managers a chance to sell the wares.

The commission seems itself to have reacted from its order. Commissioner Pace introduced the first one but he liked Commissioner Moon's so much better that Mr. Moon agreed to that. Now Mr. Moon is disposed to give more time. He made the seconding speech yesterday when Commissioner and Mayor Johnson made the motion. Mr. Pace stands hotly against it and says he wishes to see the fellows who own them and frequent them to go to work.

**State Bankers in Session.**  
The bankers of North Carolina, an even three dozen, attended the state meeting Wednesday and collaborated with Food Commissioner Henry A. Page who has had mighty little trouble with them.

And many of them are Germans. Some were born in the old country and the Teutonic names of quite a few are present with individuals many generations away from the fatherland. Nearly half of the bankers of the state were represented.

Among them was Peter Andres, of Bain, whose contribution of 250 to the Albermarle Red Cross and voluntarily imposed penalty of closed doors for a day marked him. He placarded his closed business declaring that he had violated the law. His sin was failure to mix the proper amount of cereal substitute with his wheat products. He set up claim of inability to get the cereal, but Mr. Page couldn't pass him on that examination. The door of the bakery carried a placard confessing the violation and Albermarle's Red Cross chapter gets the money.

In this meeting the bakers did most of their deliberating without an instructor from the food administration's office. After hearing the talk of Chief Assistant Paul Lucas, they settled down to discussion of the way to serve best the cause of their country. The first session began at 10 o'clock in the morning and the second at 2 in the afternoon.

### NEW YORK LETTER.

(By O. O. McIntyre.)  
(Special Correspondence to the Dispatch.)

New York May 10.—Not far from Herald Square there is a blind man who makes a doubtful living selling newspapers. He has been there for years. It was a warm, spring morning with enough tang in the air to make New Yorkers glad they were blind.

One of those 1918 model cheap men walked up to the stand. He had on a high hat, frock coat, striped trousers, spats and maverick mitts. A cane was crooked over his left arm. He looked like a man who could recite "What the men will wear," without missing a stroke.

A glaring war headline on the blind man's newspapers caught his eye. He paused, and from a distance tried to read the announcement. This whetted his curiosity and stepping forward he withdrew the top newspaper, retaining it until he had finished the article.

All the while the blind man, stood with upturned palm waiting for his two cents. Mr. Snappy Dresser ignored the mute appeal. He refolded the newspaper, slipped it under the blind man's arm, help himself to a shrug and walked on.

A teamster with an unclean neck but perhaps a clean heart was driving by. He saw the performance and with a wild whoop jumped from his seat and grabbed the nifty dresser by the arm.

"Stealing the news from a blind man!" he exclaimed. "That's a little more than the limit. You wouldn't give a man the mumps when you got through with 'em." And with that he delivered a back hand slap across the headline purloiner's face.

And a cop on the corner, aroused by the crowd, walked over, saw what

was going on and discreetly turned his face away. The man who cuts his hair, the man who gives only one cheer when three are called for, the man who holds out his littlest finger when asked to shake hands—all these may now be considered second-hand cheap men.

Capit calls so many hello girls away from their switchboards that Broadway hotels are finding it almost impossible to get skilled operators. As a result the job of Phone Proprietress has been created—the job of teaching recruits the art of proper phone conversation.

Manhattan has many phone girls who say "Allrightie," "Yep," "You betcha," "I'll say so" and other slangy phrases which are distasteful to hotel managers. Thus the new recruits are taught to eliminate slang and speak good English.

The phone girls are never permitted to say "Hello." Instead they are permitted to say "Number"—they say "Order please" instead. In calling guests in the morning they must say "Good morning. It is 7 o'clock." And above all things they must never give a sharp answer. Hotels believe that efficient telephone service is the most important thing in establishing business. And it is possibly true.

He is a poet and he makes money writing verse. The other day someone asked him what was going to be the biggest factor in winning the war—that is in his opinion. He thought awhile then he said: "For a number of years I have tried to belittle George M. Cohan. Some years ago in a little sheet he got out there was a line which read 'Boys, I'm on my third million' or something like that. It was disgusting to me. I saw him rise to theatrical greatness as an actor and playwright. Still I thought he was a sublime egotist—flag waving glory seeker. I was younger then. Perhaps I was a bit jealous. You know George Cohan makes more money in a year than I make in ten years. Well, to get back to the biggest factor in winning the war. I believe it is the song 'Over Sea.' It is inspiring men on land and sea. It is doing what no other song has done and a singing army will always win."

**Editors to Discuss War Service.**  
Indianapolis, Ind., May 10.—War service will be one of the chief topics of discussion at the second annual convention of the National Association of City Editors, which is to assemble here tomorrow for a two-day session. The convention will bring together a notable assemblage of newspaper men from all sections of the country.

**Viscount Bryce 80 Years Old.**  
London, May 10.—Among the hundreds of congratulations received today by Viscount Bryce, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday anniversary, were many greetings from prominent Americans whose friendship he gained during his years of residence at Washington as British ambassador to the United States.

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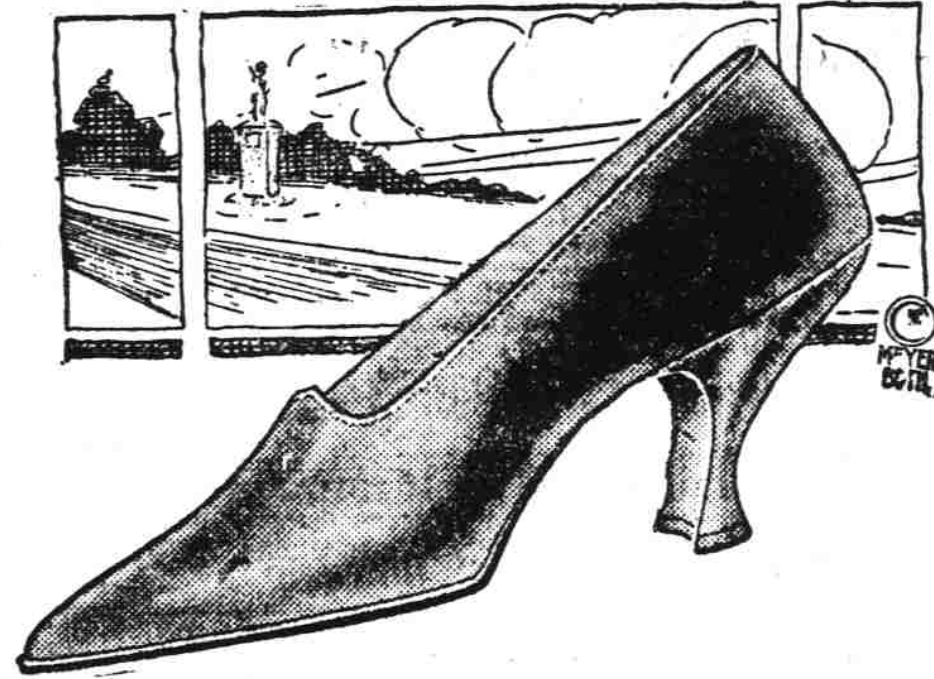
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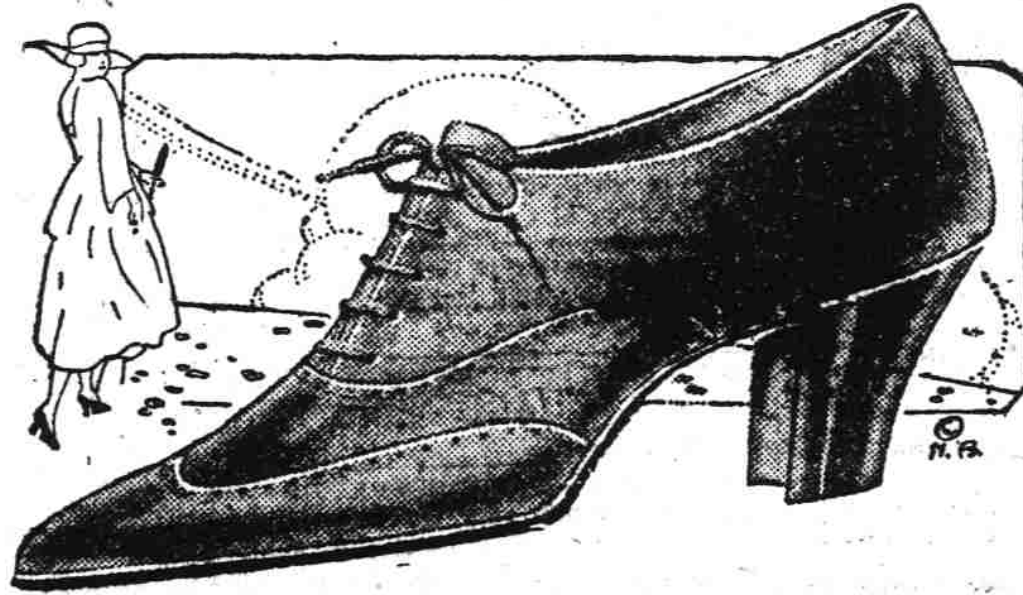
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## Increased Revenue Necessary For Telephone Company

Every person in North Carolina and elsewhere has been directly affected in his personal and business life by the enormous increase in the cost of food and other necessities and the increased cost of labor and material which has been experienced during the past four years.

Individuals have met this situation by effecting economy in their personal life and by seeking increases in their income. Private business concerns and many public utility enterprises have secured relief by increasing the price of goods they sell or the service they render. Practically the only service, the cost of which remain the same to the public in spite of the increased cost of labor and material, is telephone service.

The time has arrived when it is necessary to secure additional revenue if we are to render adequate and efficient general service in the State of North Carolina and meet our obligations to our patrons and to our government which are imposed upon us as a public servant.

We have stated the situation frankly to the State Corporation Commission and have requested authority to increase our local exchange rates in certain cities based upon a complete exposition of our operations which show clearly that the proposed increase in our revenue will by no means produce a reasonable return upon our investment.

We have endeavored to meet our obligation to our employes by large increases in the wages paid to enable them to meet in a measure the increased cost of living, but the demand for labor due to the commercial activity of the past year and to government requirements has affected us just as it has every other industry.

In 1916 we required one employe for every 41 stations in North Carolina, while in 1917 there was one employe to every 35 stations. This was not due to any large increase in the number of stations but to the increased traffic and to the large number of new and inexperienced employes who could not handle as much work as a more experienced organization.

In January, 1917, the salaries and wages paid in North Carolina amounted to 99 cents per station. In December, 1917, this item amounted to \$1.34 per station and is now even greater.

In 1916 we disbursed 43.4 cents for salaries and wages out of every dollar of revenue earned in North Carolina. In 1917 our employes received 50.4 cents out of every dollar of revenue earned in North Carolina, and this figure is increasing.

Our gross revenue in 1917 was \$944,752.18—an increase of \$82,873.31 over 1916. Our salaries and wages paid were actually increased \$64,096.75 in 1917, which is at the rate of \$120,662.04 per annum, or \$37,788.73 more than our increase in revenue in 1917.

The estimated increase in revenue on the basis of the proposed rates will be at least \$50,000.00 per annum less than the increase in salaries and wages already made and estimated to be necessary in 1918. It will not take care of the other increased expenses such as taxes, material, etc. With this increased revenue the net result of our operations in North Carolina in 1918 will not equal the net result in 1917.

A complete statement of these facts and many others will be presented in detail to the State Corporation Commission, but we want our patrons and the public to be familiar with them and we indulge the hope that our request will appeal to you as so reasonable that you will extend us your co-operation.

## Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company

