

# THE DUNN DISPATCH

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## ADMINISTRATOR PAGE DENIES FALSE RUMORS

No Limit to Acreage Farmers May Plant in Tobacco or Cotton or Other Crops.

Raleigh, Feb. 18.—State Food Administrator Henry A. Tago is indignant at reports that have been circulated in some parts of North Carolina to the effect that the Food Administration, the Department of Agriculture or some other branch of the Government had issued an order limiting the acreage that may be planted in tobacco, cotton or other crops per horse or mule. These reports are not only absolutely groundless, but Mr. Tago states that there is absolutely no authority in any existing laws for any department of the Federal Government to issue such an order.

### German Propaganda

This is the first instance that we have had in North Carolina of what appears to be definite and injurious propaganda instigated by German agents or pro-Germans, with the deliberate idea of confusing, harassing or discouraging North Carolina farmers," declared Mr. Tago. "I shall appreciate any information which will throw any light on the origin of such reports. Incidentally I do not hesitate to express my utmost confidence in such a degree of patriotism upon the part of North Carolina farmers as will result during the coming season in the largest harvest of every food crop in the history of our State."

### Attitude Toward Farmers

"The attitude of the Food Administration toward the farmer may be very simply stated. Our country and a starving world demand the utmost pound of production of all food crops by every farmer in America. This increased production must come very largely through the increased yield per acre which may be brought about by proper soil preparation and crop cultivation and by the increased use of manures, forest leaves, wood mold and commercial fertilizer. A smaller acreage in tobacco would be desirable, but beyond this suggestion the Food Administration is not going to urge any reduction."

"I do not think any reduction in the cotton acreage is at all desirable, but rather that a greater production should be secured upon the acreage which we normally plant. Because of the scarcity and the great demand

wholesome edible oil in cottonseed, cotton may be rightly considered as a food crop to be raised for the demand for the staple for clothing and ammunition."

### Greater Food Production Urgent

"A greater production of corn, soy beans, peas, Irish and sweet potatoes, sguham for syrup, and all hay and feed crops is extremely desirable and urgent. No family in North Carolina that has an opportunity to cultivate a garden should neglect to do so. "Any individual in North Carolina or America who neglects or fails to do his utmost in crop production or to make every square foot of his soil and every hour of his time count during the coming season is a thief and is unworthy of citizenship in this State and Nation. I assure, however, that we have few such citizens in North Carolina."

## SECRETARY OF WAR BAKER PASSES BY CHARLOTTE CAMP

Says Camp Greene Will Continue To Serve The Purpose For Which It Was Established—What?

Charlotte, Feb. 18.—Passing through Charlotte tonight on his return to Washington from a visit to Camps Gordon, Wheeler, and Hancock, Secretary Baker said that "no definite change will be made probably, in the status of Camp Greene until it has served its announced purpose—the providing of training ground for the Third and Fourth Regular Army divisions." He said that in the meantime he probably would inspect the camp, in addition to having an investigation made by members of the medical corps of the army. The secretary would not indicate what time would be covered in carrying out the "announced purpose" of the camp, further than to say "it may be a month or so—several months." He added that "perhaps in the meantime it may be decided that it is advisable to abandon some of the national guard training camps."

### Death in British Forces in Action and From Wounds Estimated at But 7 Per Cent.

Now that American troops are taking their places in the trenches, attention is again directed to an estimate by the Secretary of War, that the losses up to June 1, 1917, of the British expeditionary forces from deaths in action and from wounds amounted to but 7 per cent of the total of all men sent to France since the beginning of the war. The ratio of losses of this character today, because of improved tactics, is less than 7 to every 100 men.

## COURTESY BAKER SAYING CAMP GREENE REMAINS

Secretary's Attitude Represented As Changed About Camp's Removal

Washington, D. C., Feb. 14.—Secretary of War Baker talked most cordially of the prospects of Camp Greene being continued indefinitely to Representative Godwin and Thos. H. Sutton of Fayetteville today. In fact, according to Messrs. Godwin and Sutton, the secretary stated positively that Camp Greene is not to be abandoned as long as there are any soldiers to be sent to camps and dismounted the report that there is any move toward the North Carolina camp than at other places where American soldiers are being trained for service in France.

### A Mudless Camp Site

Mr. Godwin took Mr. Sutton and a delegation of Fayetteville business men to see the secretary late this afternoon to tell him if it had been decided to abandon Camp Greene because of mud, that they wanted him to consider Fayetteville as a camp site. He made it plain, however, that he and the Fayetteville people hoped that Camp Greene would be continued. But if the camp was to be closed they told him that there is a little strip of land known as North Carolina lying between the two favored states of Virginia and South Carolina, which can offer the best camp facilities east of the Mississippi river.

### Used Sec. Baker's Own Words

In stating that Fayetteville is the best camp site east of the Mississippi, Mr. Godwin was only using the phrase coined by the secretary himself when he told Senator Simmons last summer that Fayetteville had been selected because it was the best site east of the Mississippi. That was before Charlotte became a factor in the fight for a camp.

Mr. Baker said he remembers what has been said about Fayetteville and promised to keep that city in mind should it be decided to establish another camp or to abandon Camp Greene. He left no mistake in the minds of his visitors, however, that he does not intend to abandon the only camp which North Carolina now has.

### Secretary's Attitude Changed?

Secretary Baker's attitude today is not in line with what he said last summer when he told Senator Simmons and Overman, Representatives Kitchin and Wells,

At that time the secretary said the camp would not be abandoned until he made a personal inspection of conditions and that he would probably make that inspection within the week. But, Messrs. Godwin and Sutton say, there can be no mistaking what the secretary told them today. Camp Greene is not to be abandoned.

## ROSE EDWARDS MUST SERVE PRISON TERM

Girl's Counsel Fails to Find Reformatory Where She Could Be Sent

Fayetteville, Feb. 16.—Judge Geo. W. Connor announced in Superior Court here today that he could take no further action in regard to the ten years sentence which he imposed upon Rose Edwards on January 18, punishment for her part in killing of Angeline Mouton, owing to the inability of her counsel and friends to find a suitable reformatory in which she might be placed.

In imposing the sentence Judge Connor had directed that the commitment should not be issued until after February 15 in order to give the girl's counsel opportunity to locate a home or institution other than the State's Prison where she could be sent.

Miss Edwards is sick at present and it is probable that she will not be removed to the penitentiary until her condition improves.

### COSTS 75 PER CENT MORE TO LIVE NOW

Bureau of Statistics Says That Is Rate of Increase Since War Began

Washington, Feb. 15.—Average wholesale prices have increased 75 per cent since the war began, according to a review made public today by the bureau of labor statistics. Most of the advances have been within the last two years. From January to December of 1917 the wholesale prices of farm products increased 39 per cent; food 23 per cent; clothing 28 per cent; lumber 27 per cent; drugs 60 per cent; house-furnishing goods 37 per cent. Almost the only relief accorded the household was ten per cent decrease in fuel and lighting. Metal and metal products decreased five per cent. Retail prices have fluctuated at a relatively lower level than wholesale prices. Dressed poultry and granulated sugar only 28 important food-stuffs show as large a per cent of increase in the retail than in the wholesale prices.

## EXCITING MOMENTS IN NO MAN'S LAND

Americans Had Passed First Wire Entanglements When Germans Turned on the "Juice."

With the American Army in France Feb. 17. (By The Associated Press.)—An American patrol having passed the first line of German entanglements and approached the second line last night, was suddenly cut off by a current of electricity along the first wire line.

Instead of attempting an immediate return to their trenches, which would have meant certain death from electrocution or machine gun fire, the Americans clung close to the earth and later, when the electricity was cut off, returned in safety to their positions.

### Was Exciting Experience

It was a thrilling experience for the patrol. A certain number of men set out from the American position in the hope of encountering a number of the enemy at a point in the German trenches. They succeeded in getting through the first line and had crawled on until the second line was reached. When they were just about to start under the second line wire there was a bluish glare and turning around they saw long, livid sparks playing through the barbed wire of the first line. The enemy had turned on a powerful electric current.

### Expected a Storm of Bullets

The patrolers quickly flattened out on the ground, thinking they had been discovered and expecting to hear momentarily machine gun bullets go singing overhead. Nothing of the kind happened, however. Apparently the Germans merely turned on the current by chance, hoping that if any Americans were within the entanglements they would be killed on the wire or while trying to get out. The patrol returned safely to the American lines when the electricity was cut off.

### Germans Have Some Humor

The Germans apparently having discovered the meaning of some of the American rocket signals, last night caused the Americans for a considerable distance along the front to prepare for a gas attack. At first the Germans sent into the air a rocket of a certain color which is the American signal for gas attacks, but the hoax was discovered soon after.

The Germans next sent up a rocket calling for barrage by the Americans, but the American officers on observation duty in an advanced post, seeing whence the rocket came, sent a message to the artillery in time to prevent it from laying down the needless shell fire. The command to fire was about to be given when the information reached the gunners that the enemy was responsible for the barrage signal.

### Fritz Gets "Armful"

Extremely quick work was necessary to stop the order to fire, for the American artillery has reached a high degree of speed in going into action. The Germans are coming to realize this and they are not so free with their shells as in the early days of the American occupation of the line. In the language of the front, every time that Fritz sends over one shell now he gets "an armful" in return.

### ANTI-GAS TRAINING OF THE AMERICANS IS SO EXCELLENT THAT NOT ONE IS POISONED

With the American Army in France Feb. 15.—The Germans opposed to the Americans early today made an unsuccessful bombardment with gas shells. German airplanes in large numbers also were driven off by the American machines and anti-aircraft batteries.

Gas shells fell in considerable number from the German guns within the American sector early this morning, making necessary the wearing of masks in all parts of the trenches for more than three hours. One American was injured by an exploding shell, but so excellent has been the anti-gas training of the men that not a single case of gas poisoning was reported. The duration of the shelling was two hours, but traces of the poisonous fumes remained for another hour after the bombardment had ceased.

The American artillerymen rapidly are attaining a high degree of efficiency. Today they continually fired shells that exploded so close to the enemy airplanes that the aviators were compelled to dodge and duck and scurry back to a safer area, pursued across the sky by a trail of shrapnel puffs.

The artillery on both sides resumed activity today. The American gunners shelled the German rear lines and communications effectively.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Pope, of Cary, arrived yesterday to spend a week with Mrs. Pope's sister, Mrs. Howard Crook.

## TWO BIG EVENTS WILL MARK A TURNING POINT IN THE WAR IN EUROPE

And Make Certain a Victory For Allies and America

### FIRST IS A MILITARY EVENT

Spring Drive of Germans Will Fail If, Indeed, Such a Drive Is Made

Washington, Feb. 17.—Two big events—military and naval, that will almost inevitably mark the turning point in the war, making certain a victory by the allies and the United States, are confidently expected by some of the best informed army and navy experts here. They are even predicted.

The first, a military event, is the failure of the spring drive of the Germans on the west front, if, indeed, such a drive is actually made.

The second, a naval event, is the definite collapse of the submarine campaign against shipping, which will probably follow within the next month or two if the failure of the German land campaign is demonstrated.

Two such failings, one supplementary to the other, in the judgment of experts in Washington, will pave the way to a positive military and naval decision adverse to the central powers and will immeasurably hasten ultimate peace.

### Not More Outburst of Optimism

That these events will take place is not an outburst of mere optimism and hope on the part of the government officials, particularly those in either of the uniformed services. The expectation is the result of careful examination of the actual situation, both ashore and afloat, as it is regarded as a conservative expectation. It is shared by so many men that it possesses real significance, from a naval standpoint.

There has been much gloom and pessimism in Washington during the past few months concerning the progress of the war, due to the uncovering of certain army shortcomings, the persistence of submarine activity, snarls in the government war machine, the collapse of Russia and other unfavorable events afloat. There have been days when prospects looked dark and when the future seemed to be a gloomy one.

### Will Be Cheerful Summer

It is proper to state, in view of all the bad news that has been served almost daily to the American public most of which has been justified by the facts, that nevertheless there is the very best ground for hope and confidence during the next few months.

Government officials who are in position to know things declare that the spring and summer of 1918 will be far more cheerful seasons than the present winter. They make due allowance for all failures and shortcomings in the recent past as well as allowance for additional adverse events in the near future, and then declare that the prospects of the allies were never more bright and never more likely to develop into decisive ones.

From a military point of view, the spring drive that Germany is expected to make will be chiefly important in affording opportunity on a large scale to kill Germans. That the drive will meet with initial successes in the way of pushing back the allied line at one or more points is regarded as likely. But all such successes, in the opinion of army men, will be gained by Germany at the irreparable cost of men which will ultimately more than offset any temporary gain in morale. Without obtaining anything approaching decisive advantage, Germany is expected to suffer a loss of man power that will bring the drive to a complete standstill, following which there will be a retrograde movement. It is the information of the war experts here that Germany for lack of artillery power, will be unable to sustain the infantry in the drive for any considerable period.

### Wholesale Defeat for U-boats

By the time the drive has come to an end, or soon thereafter, and when its failure has begun to sink in upon the minds of German people will come the beginning of the end of ruthless submarine warfare, according to the conservative estimate of naval men. Admiral Jellicoe has predicted the end of submarine warfare by August 1. There are some American experts who set the date even earlier. Their confidences as to this is marked. Up to the middle of May, in their judgment, submarine losses may continue at practically the present rate, with the customary fluctuations from week to week. After the date they forecast a steady dwindling, until by mid-summer such losses will become negligible. There are some who look forward to absolute cessation of submarine warfare, but their view is regarded as too extreme.

## LOCAL LABOR SUPPLY TO PRODUCE FOOD CROPS

Plans Made To Send Special Agents Into North Carolina Soon, By Chief Barkman

Washington, Feb. 16.—The United employment service will rely upon each locality so far as possible to supply labor for producing the food crops this summer. If others are required, they will be obtained from the surplus of workers in industrial centers. In the mobilization and distribution of both classes of labor, the farmers will have the fullest co-operation of the services without expense to themselves.

Preparations for sending special agents into North Carolina and Virginia, the first states making urgent appeals for assistance in recruiting farm workers, were announced today by A. L. Barkman, chief of the farm service division.

Higher wages than ever paid before for farm labor are expected to be a fruitful aid in the "back to the farm" movement. Calls for help in some sections early offers of \$35 to \$50 a month with board, lodging and washing for single men, and a house, garden, fuel and a cow for a married man.

While many reports of farm labor scarcity and the necessity of using female labor for heavy farm work have been heard to be exaggerated, women will be enrolled and are expected to prove valuable in light truck farming, fruit picking and packing. College students and high school boys also will be utilized after schools close.

### MARCH OF THE WEATHER KING

Washington, Feb. 19.—A drop of from 20 to 30 degrees in temperature in Atlantic coast states Thursday was forecast tonight by the Weather Bureau. A cold blanket now hanging over the upper Missouri valley and northeastern Rocky Mountain slope will move eastward, causing sharp drops in temperature tomorrow in the Ohio valley, the lower lake region, Tennessee and east half States.

Rain is forecast tomorrow for Atlantic coast, Ohio valley and east half States.

Several days here with Mrs. J. G. Godard, has returned to her home in Robertsonville.

### Naval confidence that the submarine is soon destined to wholesale defeat is based upon knowledge of actual conditions in the war zone, careful estimates of Germany's capacity to construct undersea craft and acquaintance with the extraordinary plans of the allies and the United States to cope with the menace during the spring and summer.

Government war plans generally are being pushed in accordance with the belief that by mid-summer the submarine will have ceased to be an important factor in interrupting the trans-Atlantic movement of troops and supplies. The plans for sending men, munitions and food across the sea would continue, no matter how grave the submarine outlook, but they are intensified by the calculation that by July or August the sea will be practically free to allied and neutral commerce.

### "Light Not Far Ahead"

The predicted failure of the submarine will come as a result of no single discovery or invention, it is declared, but following a combination of methods and devices, together with wholesale enlargements of the anti-submarine offensive. It will involve a general perfection of allied naval work all along the line, together with the strong probability that the channels through which submarines make their entrance into and exit from the war zone may be almost totally closed. All of the above sounds extremely rosy and optimistic. The justification for saying it lies in the fact that it represents the careful judgment of a good many experts who view the war entirely from the military and naval standpoint, and not from that of politics or diplomacy. These men do not regard themselves as in the least over-confident. Some of them are extremely conservative in the matter of attempting predictions, but feel that the general military and naval situation contains elements which are certain to result favorably to the allies. They are willing to discount in advance the land and sea reverses that may come within the next two or three months, keeping their eyes fixed upon the events which lie just beyond.

"For some time we have been passing through a period of comparative darkness," said one official today. "But the light is ahead of us, and not very far ahead at that, and I only wish that the American people generally could see it as clearly as some of us do."

## CHAUTAUQUA CLOSED LAST TUESDAY NIGHT

Program Was an Interesting One and the Attendance Was Good. Will Come Again.

### (By J. J. Wade)

The Radcliffe Chautauqua closed a three days visit to our city, at the Metropolitan Tuesday night, and left behind a good impression with the townspeople. The more progressive, energetic, and hustling men and women of the city, who worked so hard to get this chautauqua here, and who participated in the big business drive of ticket selling last week, covering the guarantee for the backers, were well rewarded for their efforts with the interesting and entertaining program that the Company gave. Doubtless, this Chautauqua did much good in the community.

The engagement opened Saturday afternoon, with a powerful patriotic lecture by Mr. Clark, who, as he put it, is "French on my father's side; Irish on my mother's side; English on the outside; and American on the inside." His subject "Wake Up America" was interesting and appropriate. By his unique personality and wondrous powers of oratory he held the audience every moment of his talk, and impressed all very much with his well worded speech. The remaining part of the afternoon's program was musical, and Capp's Orchestra, a set of young, but masterful musicians, thoroughly entertained the crowd with various selections of beautiful music.

Saturday evening Mr. Clark made another patriotic lecture, "The Call of Democracy," which many declared was even better than his talk of the afternoon in which he expounded in masterful style, and true logic, what a call the spirit of our nation is making to us. Capp's orchestra again had a wonderful musical program, and impressed the audience especially with its interpretation of "Mars" from Tchaikovsky, and also the impersonation of the peasant day jazz orchestra and dance music.

Monday, the closing performance was taken up by a domestic demonstration by Miss Sturgeon, a graduate of a school of such, and with training in Europe. She is at present in the United States, and is a member of the Red Cross.

and tried some, proving them. In the afternoon Miss Sturgeon delivered an address on her travels in Europe, and on food value, and how and why we should save. Also at this performance a very entertaining chemical demonstration was given by Mr. Louis. In the evening, a very interesting lecture by Dr. Cady, who is directing the Chautauqua, and an electrical demonstration by Mr. Williams made up the program.

Yesterday morning, a young lady, a graduate Red Cross Nurse, who knows by experience, every phase of such work, made a talk on the Community nurse, and explaining the need of this type. In the afternoon she made a lecture on the American Red Cross nurse, and what a work the Red Cross does in war and peace. The Miller Andrews Company of entertainers recited, sang, and played, with much art. Tuesday night the audience was again entertained by this corps of interesting musical people.

The Chautauqua was better patronized than any that has been to Dunn before. The deficiency was small and the amount the guarantors had to make good was nominal. Its appearance in this city awakened our people to the benefit to be derived from such entertainments and those that are to come in the future will receive a more hearty welcome. A contract was signed to have the Radcliffe Chautauqua appear again in Dunn next winter, when it will be given under the auspices of the Dunn graded school.

### TOBACCO OR MORE FOOD

Washington, D. C., Feb. 18.—The use of tobacco by our troops in the trenches plays no small part in the conservation of food, say Marine Corps officials here, who estimate that from 25 to 30 per cent of food is saved daily in this manner.

While authorities admit the detrimental influence of narcotics, they assert that tobacco relieves the nervous tension of soldiers who are under continual shell fire.

"Early in the war," declared a Marine officer, "the French discovered that men who smoke eat considerably less food, and only recently the British Food Controller issued the statement: 'The British troops in the trenches must have tobacco or much more food.'"

Secretary Lane has recommended a bill for the further protection of men engaged in the present war who prior to entering the service had indicated claims on public lands.

## CLOSING ORDER PUT MANY SHIPS TO SEA

460 Vessels, Carrying 2,000,000 Tons of Supplies Shuttled and Started Afloat

New York, Feb. 18.—Some hitherto unannounced details of the causes and results of the five-day industrial suspension and business Monday order were disclosed here tonight by Paul Administrator Garfield, in an address to the alumni of Williams College. Dr. Garfield's theme was the spirit of America and he praised the people for the tranquility with which they met the economic crisis.

As a result of the closing order, Dr. Garfield said, 460 ships, carrying more than 2,000,000 tons of food fuel and munitions and other war supplies, which had been tied up in Atlantic ports, were unshuttled and sent to sea from January 17, the day the order became effective, to January 20. A normal number of ships only remained at anchor, he declared, and the flow of supplies necessary to the American expeditionary forces and the allies had been re-established.

In addition, the fuel administration continued, the rails were cleared for important shipments of steel and other commodities of factories without which the most essential war industries inevitably would have been paralyzed, but not in an orderly fashion.

Dr. Garfield called attention to the fact that the nation's foreign commerce had increased from two billion of dollars in 1913 to nine billion of dollars, and said there had been placed on the railroads little more than one-half of the number of locomotives needed to care for the increased traffic the remainder being sent to France and Russia.

Almost without exception, he continued, the manufacture of war material was at its height about the first of last December. Then came the worst weather the country had experienced in 30 years. The railroads found the struggle against over-production and blizzards too much for them, the administrator said, and some relief was necessary.

"To cite a few only of the most important articles," said Dr. Garfield, "the shipments of steel plates, armor plate, and other war materials, and the shipment of the remainder being sent to France and Russia."

tries inevitably would have been closed down, but not in an orderly fashion. Cooperation demands the share of losses as well as gains. It is noteworthy that the upward trend was resumed for the week beginning January 24.

"The fuel administration, believing in the democratic ideal, asked not that some, but that all participate in the sacrifices necessary to save us from our own prosperity and the American spirit areas and asserted itself. There was no cranking of the week in a great scramble, but all stopped except the few appointed to absolutely necessary work."

"The reaction of the American people in the face of the greatest crisis which this generation has been called upon to face, proved that they were true inheritors of the American spirit and practical advocates of the principle of democracy."

### "HOGAN GANG" HAS VISITORS

Fort Caswell, Feb. 18.—Speaking of being agreeably surprised, what is left here of the Hogan Gang experienced such today.

It was indeed a joy to have as our guests from dear old Dunn Mr. and Mrs. Richard Warren and daughters Misses Mary and Marguerite.

They came into Wilmington yesterday, and by luck caught the Fort Caswell troop train which was returning to the port with several hundred soldiers that had been up to the city for the week-end, thus making their trip earlier and with more convenience.

The boys took pleasure in conducting them about over the camp and showing the interesting sights to be seen.

Yes, they dined with us too, and one of the nice things about that food was freedom from the usual "army show." The good old sausage, back bone, spareribs, sweet potatoes and cake that our visitors brought to us—Mr. but it did go great.

We feel safe in saying that our guests enjoyed themselves and will come again before a great while. They now know how much good it does the boys to see home faces. The pleasure we derive from such visits—and how we appreciate having our friends down to see us.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren have a son, C. C. Warren, who is a member of the Hogan Gang.

To meet the shortage of small silver change in Norway a large issue of 1-crown notes (at normal exchange the Norwegian crown is worth 33.6 cents United States currency) has been put in circulation.