

## Visit To Grocery Pays Dividend To Rail Executive

As things turned out it was a happy circumstance for the Southern Railway system that Mrs. T. H. Seay told her husband to stop by the grocery on the way home to buy some bacon and butter. Mr. Seay, is comptroller of the railway system, and since this is a very responsible position indeed, and one that requires a prodigious memory, Mrs. Seay was perfectly justified in assuming he would not forget his errand.

All of which goes to show that even Mrs. Seay can be wrong. At times.

In justice to Mr. Seay, he went dutifully to the grocery store and was doing very well with his shopping. Of course, he hadn't gotten around to bacon or butter, but he had browsed about. He had bought a couple of dozen tomatoes that Mrs. Seay would not know what to do with at the moment. And a beautiful fresh pineapple had struck his fancy. Mr. Seay was following the time-honored tradition of all husbands, who go hog-wild once they get in a grocery. He was really having a whale of a time when his attention was diverted.

At first Mr. Seay couldn't figure it out. Here was a man, obviously a clerk, walking around the store and chatting briskly to himself.

Say You Saw It In The News

He would approach a shelf of canned goods and rapidly sum up the items in a clear, well modulated voice—"Six cans of No. 10 Luscious Squeeze Orange Juice," he'd say, or maybe "Two dozen cans Pearly Gates Pears—No. 6," and on and on. It just didn't make sense to Mr. Seay.

"Either that man is crazy," the Southern's comptroller thought, "or I am—and it is not me." He considered the situation carefully—"and if he is taking inventory he has a memory like a ring-tailed elephant with a build-in adding machine. This I must see."

Not wanting to be obvious, the comptroller drifted casually toward the loquacious clerk and exhibited great interest in a soap display. But actually he was watching the clerk's every move. Being curious had paid dividends for Mr. Seay, and in a moment he was gratified to see this rule still held true.

The clerk was talking into a throat "mike," which Mr. Seay noted was connected by a thin cord to an electronic inventory recording machine in the back of the store—well out of the way of patrons. The usual inventory confusion was missing. There was no assistant trailing along with a notebook and pencil. There was no shouting back and forth, with the inventory clerk saying "Six cans of Mammoth Mussels" and the assistant saying "Huh?—oh yeah—Mammoth Mussels, six cans," and the clerk saying "check" and the assistant saying "check".

But Mr. Seay was no longer in the grocery store—not mentally, that is. He was far away—in a

## Unemployment Is Decreasing UCC Reports

RALEIGH, Oct. 23—A definite decrease in unemployment in North Carolina in recent weeks, of both veterans and non veterans, is reflected in the drop in checks issued for servicemen's readjustment allowances and regular unemployment benefits, Henry E. Kendall, chairman of the State Unemployment Compensation commission, announces.

Veterans' claims for unemployment allowances resulted in the issuance of 24,193 checks for the week ending June 22. By the week ending August 10 this number had increased to 25,190, the peak, while for the week ending October 5, the number of checks issued to unemployed veterans had decreased to 17,647, representing a drop of about 30 per cent from the peak.

Unemployed workers in the regular UCC program filed claims resulting in the issuance of 11,120 checks for the week ending June 22, dropping to 5,264 by the week ending August 10. By the week ending October 5, only 4,062 checks were issued, a drop to slightly more than one-third of the number issued during the peak week ending June 22. Incidentally, seasonal tobacco workers were largely responsible for that peak, which leveled off when the leaf tobacco season started.

In case of self-employed veterans who are not available for referral to jobs, 24,954 claims were filed in May and the number in July was 26,956, the peak. In September 17,804 claims were taken, a drop of 34 per cent from July.

Self-employed veterans, since more than 90 per cent of them are farmers, should show a further decided drop in October, Chairman Kendall states, since many of the farm crops will reach the market this month and the income of these farmers will exceed the \$100 a month, up to which figure the U. S. Government supplements the self-employed veteran's income.

ticket office. His trip to the grocery had paid off.

The rest of the story is pretty simple, and follows the usual pattern of the Southern Railway when it hits upon a good idea. In a very short time electronic remote-controlled recording machines were being used for inventorying ticket supplies—long before any other railroad in the United States tumbled to the possibility.

The machine is a compact affair, boxed like a portable typewriter and not much larger or heavier. The traveling auditors take it to Southern Railway ticket offices, plug in on the electric current, and count swiftly through the stock of passenger tickets. The machine "cans" the report, and the "canned" report is mailed to headquarters and the auditor moves in to another office. Formerly, it was necessary for him to take his written notes back and do the processing himself before he could go to another office. Moreover, by eliminating assistants the chance of human error is reduced, and the auditor not only does the work of two men but does it faster and more accurately.

Consideration is also being given to using this new ticket-inventorying method to streamline other Southern Railway accounting operations—such as inventorying the 65,000 or more items of materials and supplies at storehouses and other places along the railway's 8,000-mile system.

So Mr. Seay and the Southern Railway are very glad Mrs. Seay told her husband to stop by the grocery, and Mr. Seay hopes he will again be in good standing with his wife before very long.

It seems he forgot the bacon and butter.

Say You Saw It In The News

Ladies' DRESSES COATS and SUITS

Rice's Quality Store

## NOON WAS A LONG TIME COMING



(American Red Cross Photo) THIS JUNIOR RED CROSS boy is devouring a lunch packed at home according to the best nutrition standards. Red Cross Nutrition Aides checked lunches in his school, advising against waste, so that undernourished children overseas may have their share.

## National Guard Reorganization Is Under Way

The following notes which deal with miscellaneous matters of interest in connection with the new national guard for North Carolina are published for the information of community leaders and others who may be interested.

### Officer Personnel

Officers, except as shown below will be selected from those who served as officers for at least 6 months since 7 December 1941 and demonstrated their fitness while in the service. They will be examined by a board of officers for physical, moral and professional fitness. Professional qualifications will be judged mainly by performance in World War II.

Second Lieutenants may be appointed without prior commissioned service from a list of those who served in the first three enlisted grades or as warrant officers for at least 6 months since 7 December 1941. Second Lieutenants may also be procured from recent graduates of the ROTC or officers candidate schools.

Specialists such as ministers of the gospel, doctors, etc., may be appointed chaplains, medical officers, etc., without previous military training.

The maximum age limits for officers of the ground forces are: 2nd Lt., 30 years; 1st Lt., 35 years; Capt., 42 years; Major, 47 years; Lt. Col., 52 years; Colonel, 55 years.

### Enlisted Personnel

Men between the ages of 18-35 may now be enlisted without regard to prior service. However, those between the ages of 18-29 will be required to agree to an immediate administrative discharge provided a local board certifies that they would be processed for induction were it not for enlistment in the national guard. For men over 35, certain prior active service is required.

### Organizing A Unit

After the state has selected and appointed the officers for a unit, the officers have to go before a board for Federal recognition. The officers secure the enlistment of the EM. They must all

be physically examined. In the absence of a medical officer of the regular service, or national guard, such physical examination may be made by a practicing physician. In the latter case, the physician should first be recommended to me, and I, in turn, submit the recommendation to the national guard bureau, which gives its approval and furnishes such physician with the standard to be followed in making the examination, and such other information as may be in order. Prior to World War II, physicians of the state, as a patriotic service, examined men for enlistment at the cost of \$1.00 per man, and it is hoped that such arrangements may be made for the future.

At first the units do not have to be very large, as a period of time has been set up by the war department for this organization. Initially the unit may be made up largely of non-commissioned officers who can prepare to receive new men. Such non-commissioned officers must be men of previous experience as such. Units, the maximum strength of which will be less than 100 men may be initially federally recognized at a minimum strength of 30 enlisted men. Those requiring a maximum strength of over 100 men at a minimum of 40 enlisted men.

It will be possible for officers and men who can meet the qualifications to be members of the national guard at the same time that they are members of the state guard. This will facilitate the transition from the state guard to the national guard which will occur in some cases.

### Armories

Since we will have about 112 units to organize in the state, against 64 units which we had prior to World War II, we will find many communities without a standard armory. Armory facilities will be necessary and, at least for the present, I feel that a suitable place, even a hall on the second floor of a building, would be acceptable. It would be necessary, however, that a strong room be built-in for the protection of arms and ammunition and a supply room would necessarily have sufficiently strong walls and doors with strong locks and all accessible windows or openings thereto barred with iron bars.

We now have a bill in Congress which we hope will be acted upon

## Mrs. Baucom Is Elected By Baptist Women

Mrs. H. W. Baucom of Black Mountain, was elected chairman of the stewardship, and Mrs. Charles Jolley of Swannanoa, associate superintendent of the Asheville Division of the North Carolina Baptist Woman's Missionary Union at the meeting held in Hendersonville. The First Church of Asheville was selected as the meeting place for 1947.

Other officers elected were: Mrs. J. R. Morgan of Waynesville, president; Mrs. F. R. Elmore of Mars Hill, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. J. R. Owen of Asheville, young people's leader; Mrs. Julian Glazener of Brevard, mission study chairman; Mrs. J. O. Crenshaw of Asheville, community missions; and Mrs. J. O. Smith of Hendersonville, Margaret fund and training school.

shortly after reconvening of Congress, which will provide funds to assist in construction of armories. To what extent this assistance may be provided is not known, though it is felt that the federal government, under that bill, will provide probably 2-3 or 3-4 of the cost of the construction and the remainder will be the responsibility for the State and local communities. We cannot tell just now what the State itself may do, but it is my purpose to take this matter up with the General Assembly, which convenes in January, in an effort to have some armory fund created. This is all problematical.

### Progress Of Reorganization

You will note that we have appointed Colonel John Hall Manning, former commander of the 120th infantry, as a major general to command the 30th division, of which our infantry is a part, and have appointed Colonel Paul R. Younts to be division chief of staff. Just as soon as practicable, and I hope it will be soon, it is our purpose to take up with all communities the matter of the type of organization to be organized and to begin the reorganization of the national guard. As to officer personnel, we, naturally, desire that such personnel be men of good standing in their community, having the respect and confidence of the business people and men whose conduct and attitude are substantial.

### National Guard Both A State And National Force

It is important that all concerned realize that the national guard performs a necessary service to the state as well as to the national government. Every state must have a protective force trained and equipped to enable it to function effectively at existing strength in the protection of life and property and the preservation of peace, order and public safety within its borders. This function is in addition to providing that part of the national defense that has proven of such great importance in the wars of the past. With this in mind each community should do its part in providing facilities and encouragement for the reorganization and maintenance of the North Carolina National guard.

J. Van B. Metts  
The Adjutant General.

## YOUNG MEN IN VOLUNTEER WORK

Every American Red Cross chapter near a military, naval, or veterans hospital will have a committee on community service to these hospitals, according to DeWitt Smith, Red Cross vice chairman in charge of domestic services.

"In veterans hospitals," he says, "we need the help of more and more young people. The veteran patients of World War II are largely young men who need companionship with their own age group. There are increasing numbers of men among our Red Cross volunteers, but we need more. We need men to share patient hobbies, men to entertain patients, men to conduct outings, men to serve as instructors in skills, which they alone have."

## BEG YOUR PARDON

In our October 10 edition there was a typographical error in the story on Sidney Lanier which changed the entire meaning. The word should have been "sting" instead of "string." The correction follows:

Sidney Lanier—"Glooms of the live-oaks, beautiful-braided and woven With intricate shades of the vines that myriad-cloven Clamber the forks of the multi-form boughs."

"Marshes of Glynn." Lanier's idea of the poet's mission was expressed in "The Bee." "He beareth starry stuff about his wings, To pollen thee and sting thee fertile."

## BUSY CLEANING UP

The students of Black Mountain High school are busy with a clean-up campaign. With paint furnished by the P. T. A., they are redecorating the rest rooms. Prizes have been offered for the best work.

## IN ATLANTA FOR WEEKEND

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Free, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Turner of Black Mountain, spent the weekend in Atlanta. They also visited other relatives in Northern Georgia.

—Robert Hawkins Jr., spent last week end in Marion a guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Logan. Mr. Hawkins is employed in the office of George Wrenn, city clerk.

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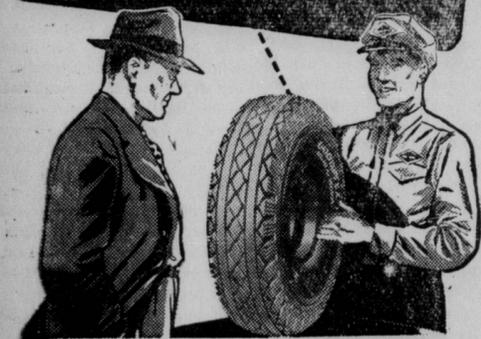
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